

# NIGHTMARE



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T.M.

A SKYWALD  
HORROR-MOOD  
PUBLICATION

BLOOD-REVENGE  
DRIVES THE  
MONSTER  
WHO IS

**WANTED:  
MORE DEAD  
THAN ALIVE!**

INHUMAN BEASTS  
DWELL IN THE  
CITY OF SHOGGOTHS  
IN

**THE SCREAM  
AND THE  
NIGHTMARE**

TALES OF HORROR  
AND SUSPENSE  
TO MAKE YOUR  
FLESH CRAWL!





...NUMBER 3 IN A SERIES OF

# HORROR FRAGMENTS

OF GREAT LITERATURE

...HE IS THE CREATION OF AMERICAN  
NOVELIST **HERMAN MELVILLE**...  
AUTHOR OF THE CLASSIC  
**MOBY DICK**...

...KNOWN TO THE MEN WHO SAILED  
WITH AHAH AS...

# THE DEMON WHALE



...THE **MADMAN** IS THE CAPTAIN OF  
A WHALING SHIP OF THE 19TH  
CENTURY... HIS NAME IS **AHAB**...  
**MAD CAPTAIN AHAH**...



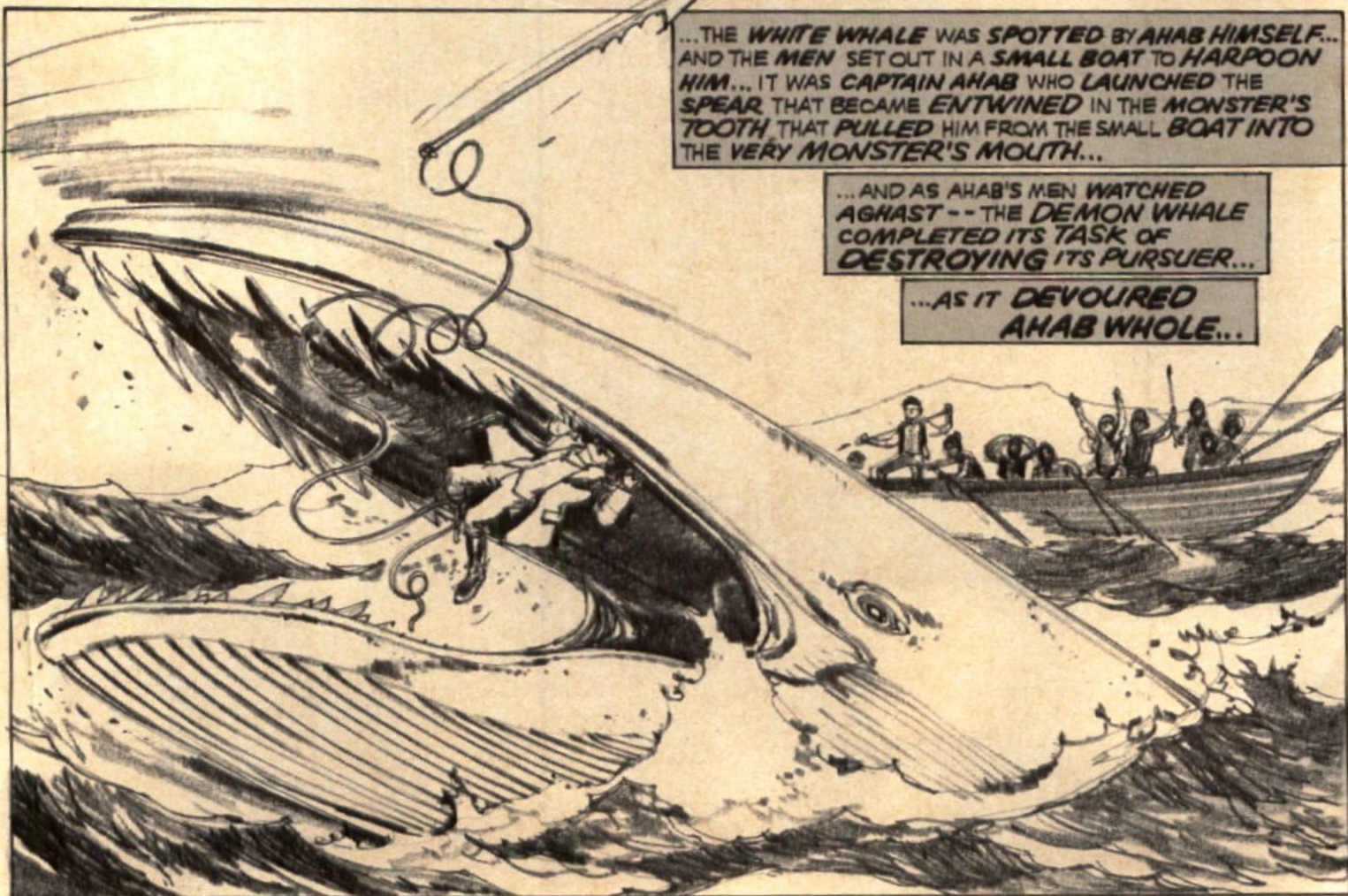
...ALL MY LIFE I'VE  
SAILED THESE **SEVEN SEAS**...  
IN SEARCH OF THE **MONSTROUS**  
**WHITE WHALE** WHICH  
DEVoured MY LEG...

...A **GOLD COIN** TO THE MAN  
WHO SPOTS HIM FOR ME...  
...THEN WE WILL **KILL** THE  
**DEMON WHALE**...

...THE **WHITE WHALE** WAS SPOTTED BY AHAH HIMSELF...  
AND THE MEN SET OUT IN A **SMALL BOAT** TO HARPOON  
HIM... IT WAS CAPTAIN AHAH WHO LAUNCHED THE  
SPEAR THAT BECAME **ENTWINED** IN THE **MONSTER'S**  
**TOOTH** THAT PULLED HIM FROM THE **SMALL BOAT** INTO  
THE **VERY MONSTER'S MOUTH**...

...AND AS AHAH'S MEN WATCHED  
AGHAST -- THE **DEMON WHALE**  
COMPLETED ITS TASK OF  
**DESTROYING ITS PURSUER**...

...AS IT DEVoured  
**AHAH WHOLE**...







# NIGHTMARE

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NIGHTMARE IS PUBLISHED BY THE SKYWALD PUBLISHING CORPORATION, 18 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. 10017. PUBLISHED 8 TIMES A YEAR. PUBLISHERS: ISRAEL WALDMAN AND HERSCHEL WALDMAN. EDITOR: ALAN HEWETSON. PRICE 75¢ PER COPY. BACK NUMBERS OF THIS MAGAZINE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE PUBLISHER, REFER TO ADVERTISEMENTS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE. THE PUBLISHER ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNSOLICITED MANUSCRIPTS OR ARTWORK, ALTHOUGH EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO RETURN MATERIAL WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE. ANY RESEMBLANCE OF CHARACTERS HEREIN TO PERSONS LIVING OR DEAD IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL. NOTHING MAY BE REPRINTED IN ANY FORM WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHER. PRINTED IN CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. DISTRIBUTED BY KABLE NEWS.

...OUR TALE OF TWO PARTS BEGINS WITH A  
RATHER LONG PROLOGUE:

# THE SHOGGOTH SERIES

...LOOK AT  
THIS AL... OUR  
CRUSADE IS  
REALLY  
GATHERING  
MOMENTUM  
... LOOKIT ALL  
THIS MAIL...

...EVERYONE OF THESE LETTERS  
IS A DELIGHT -- EVERY ONE OF  
THEM IS FROM PEOPLE WHO  
BELIEVE, AS WE DO, THAT THE  
SHOGGOTH THREAT IS  
NOTHING TO JOKE  
ABOUT...



LISTEN TO THIS  
LETTER FROM A READER  
IN HANNIBAL, MISSOURI...

"...WE'VE FORMED A  
CLUB... EVERY WEEKEND  
WE GO OUT SEARCHING  
FOR SHOGGOTH TRACKS  
IN THE CAVES NEAR  
HANNIBAL... SEARCHING  
FOR SHOGGOTHS...

...SO FAR WE'VE  
FOUND EVIDENCE  
THAT SUGGESTS  
THEY WERE HERE  
SEVERAL  
CENTURIES  
AGO..."

MMMMH!  
MIGHT BE WORTH  
A TRIP OUT  
THERE EH?

I FOUND TRACES  
OF THEM NEAR ARKHAM  
... AND IN SCOTLAND...  
OTHERS HAVE FOUND THEM  
IN ANTARTICA AND IT'S  
KNOWN THEY ARE ALSO  
IN EGYPT...

...HERE'S  
CARDONA...



HI... YOU READY?

YEH... WE'RE GOING  
OVER TO THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY, ... TO  
DO SOME RESEARCH...

LISTEN ARCHAIC,  
BEFORE WE GO  
ANYWHERE...  
LOOK AT THIS!



GOOD  
LORD!!





# WEIRD BEASTS SEEN NEAR EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS

ARCHAEOLOGISTS, DIGGING NEAR THE FAMOUS TOMB OF HARMHAB III, YESTERDAY WITNESSED A BIZARRE SCENE. AS THEY OPENED THE CENTURIES-CLOSED CRYPT OF THE PHAROAH, A GREAT RUSH OF FOUL AIR BLEW OUT AND A "HAIRY, SQUATTED MONSTER" CHARGED OUT INTO THE DESERT SANDS. THE ASTONISHED DIGGERS DESCRIBED THE MONSTER TO A STAFF ARTIST WHOSE CONCEPTION IS PRINTED HEREWITH. THEY ONLY WORDS WERE THE SHRIEKS: **TEKELI-LI...**



WRITTEN BY ALAN HEWETSON  
ILLUSTRATED BY CARDONA



MY GOD-- THERE'S ONLY **ONE BEAST** THAT COULD BE...

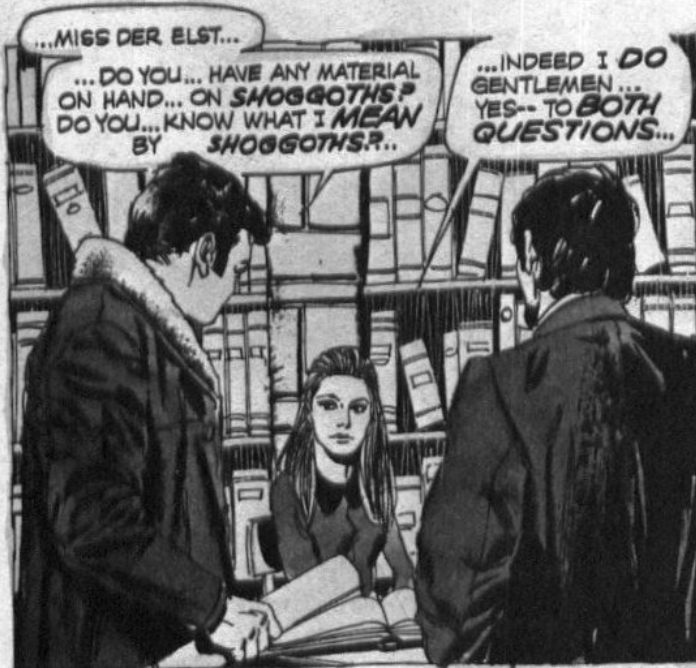
...BUT WHAT WAS A **SHOGGOTH** DOING IN AN **EGYPTIAN PYRAMID**? ONE UNOPENED FOR **THOUSANDS** OF YEARS?...



HOW THE **HELL** SHOULD I KNOW THE ANSWER TO A QUESTION LIKE **THAT**?

...YOU THINK WE'LL FIND ANYTHING **INTERESTING** IN THE **PUBLIC LIBRARY**?...

MAYBE... THEY HAVE A LOT OF **STUFF BURIED** IN **BASEMENT STACKS**...



...MISS DER ELST...

...DO YOU... HAVE ANY MATERIAL ON HAND... ON **SHOGGOTHS**? DO YOU... KNOW WHAT I MEAN BY **SHOGGOTHS**?...

...INDEED I DO GENTLEMEN... YES-- TO **BOTH** QUESTIONS...



...WE HAVE ON **LOAN** TO US FROM THE **MISKATONIC LIBRARY** IN **ARKHAM**... THE **WORKS** OF THE **ARAB ABDUL ALHAZRED**...

...AMONG WHICH IS...

...THE **NECRONOMICON**...

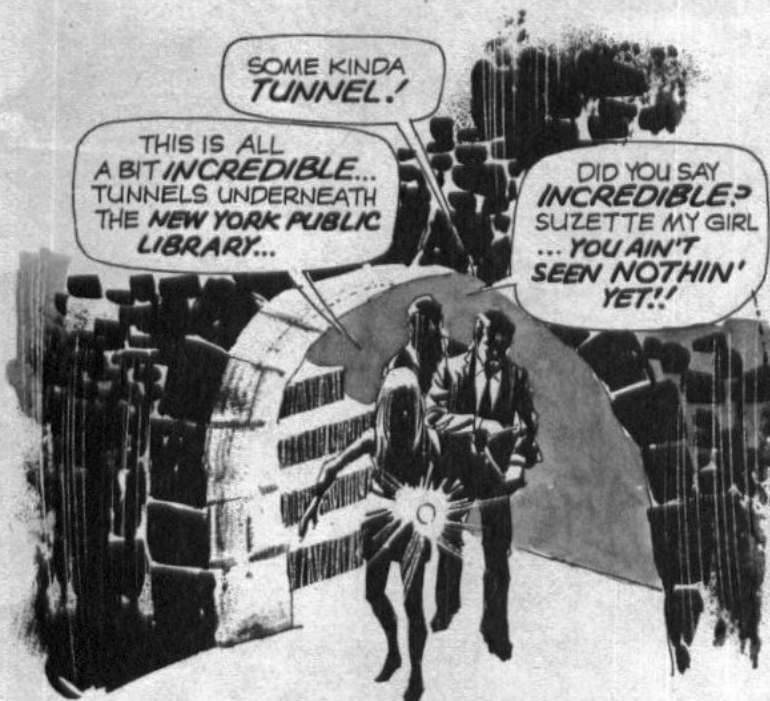
...AND SO STARTS OUR TALE  
... CHAPTER ONE:

# THE SCREAM

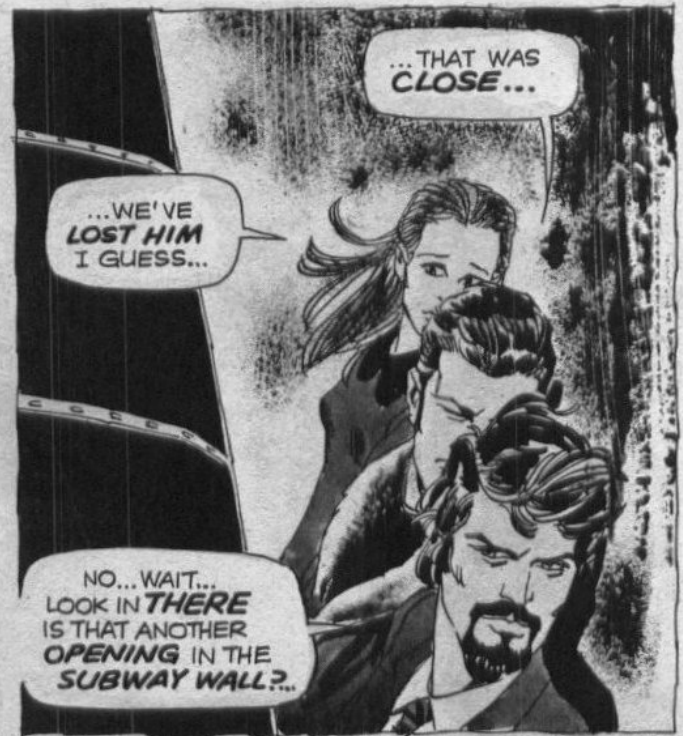










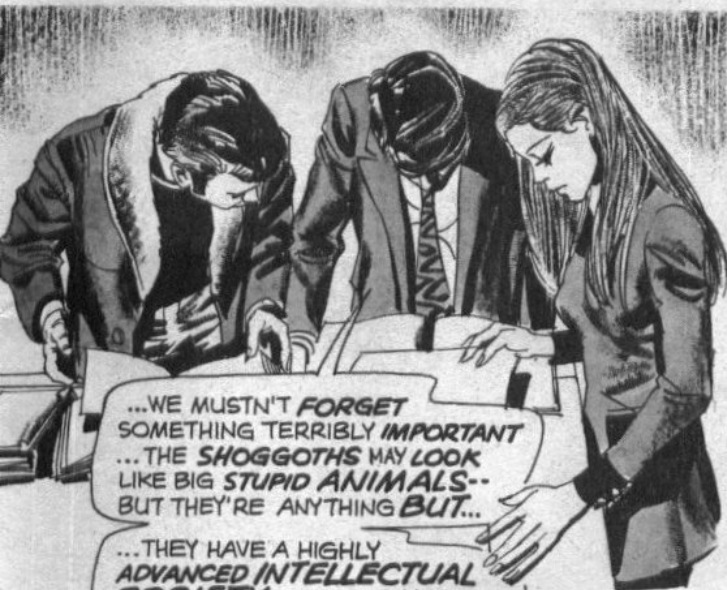






WHERE DID HE GO?

THERE'S A **LIGHT** OVER THERE... IT MAY BE AN **EXIT**...



...WE MUSTN'T **FORGET** SOMETHING TERRIBLY **IMPORTANT**... THE **SHOGGOths** MAY LOOK LIKE BIG **STUPID ANIMALS**-- BUT THEY'RE ANYTHING **BUT**...

...THEY HAVE A HIGHLY **ADVANCED INTELLECTUAL SOCIETY**... PROBABLY MORE **SOPHISTICATED** THAN OURS...

...FOR ONE THING-- IT'S BEEN AROUND **MILLIONS OF YEARS**!

UGH!

THESE **SHOGGOths** WERE THE **FIRST** TO **POPULATE** THE **EARTH**... AND NOW THEY WANT TO **REGAIN CONTROL**...

THEY KEEP THESE **LIBRARIES** IN **CERTAIN PLACES** ABOUT THE **WORLD**... ALL THE **IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFICIENCIES** OF MAN ARE **RECORDED HERE**...

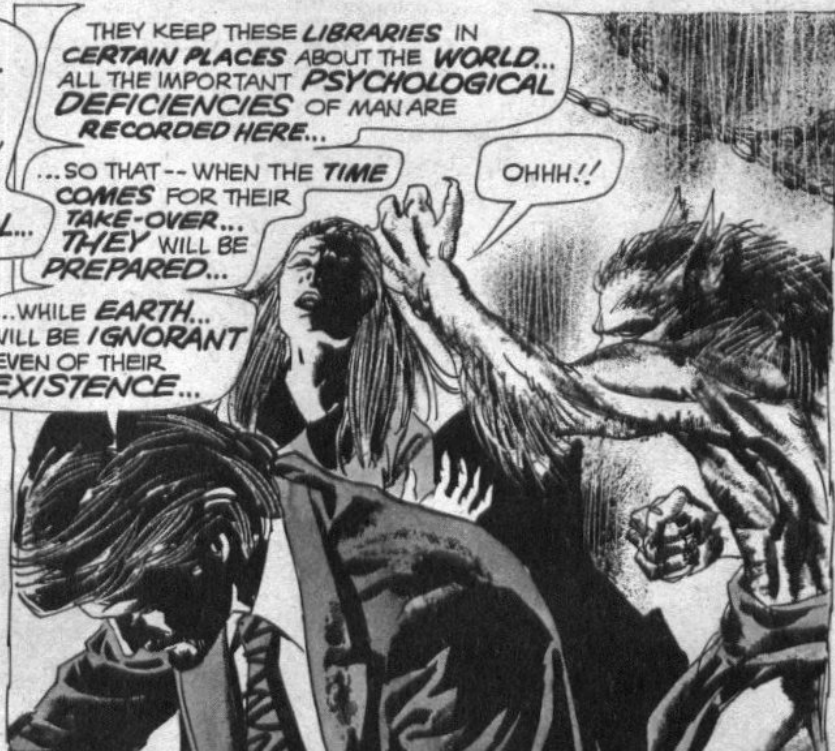
...SO THAT-- WHEN THE **TIME** COMES FOR THEIR **TAKE-OVER**... THEY WILL BE **PREPARED**...

...WHILE **EARTH**... WILL BE **IGNORANT** EVEN OF THEIR **EXISTENCE**...



THIS... IS A **LIBRARY**!

AN' I HAVE MY **SUSPICIONS** ABOUT WHAT **KIND OF LIBRARY**



OHhh!!



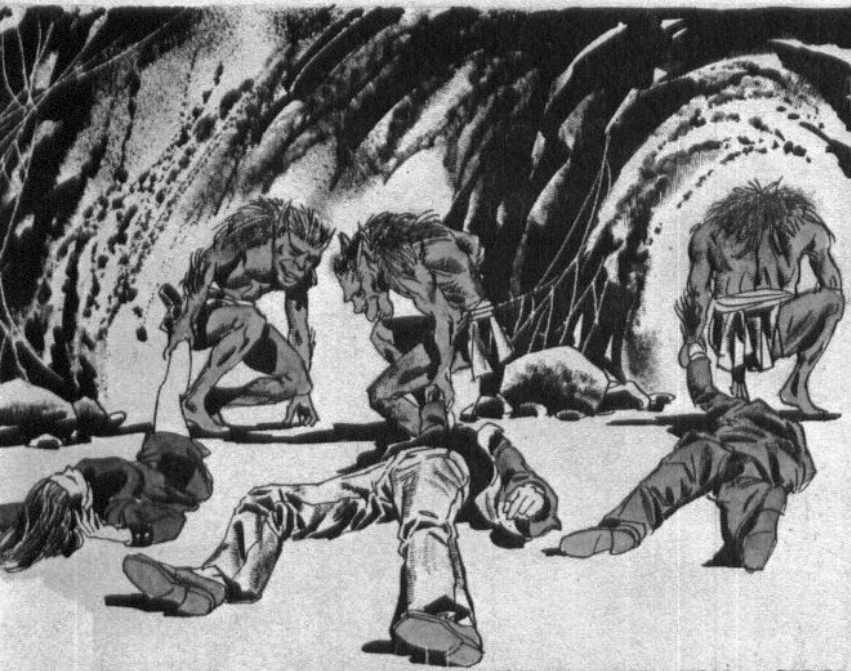


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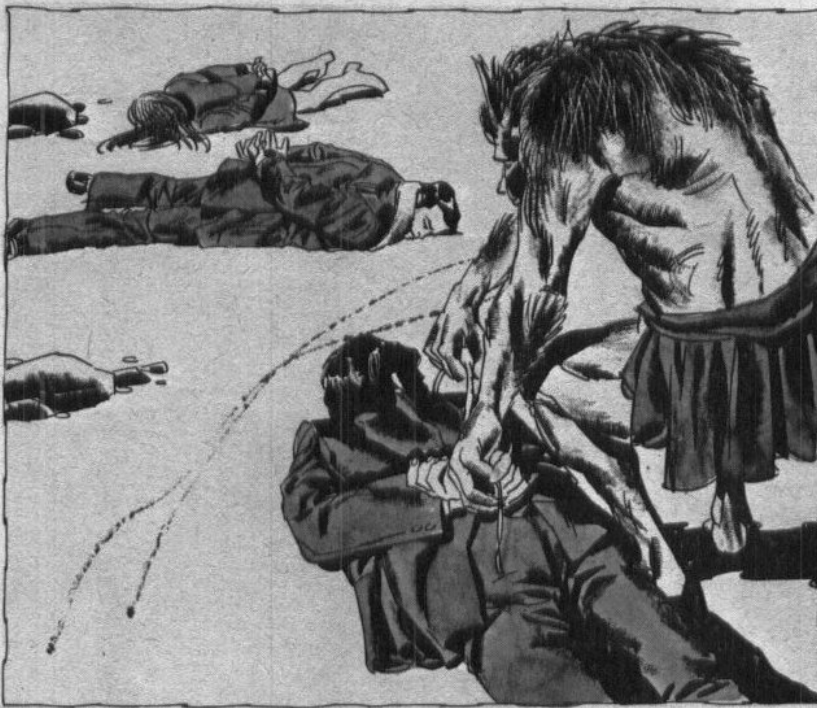
THE FOLLOWING SCENES CANNOT BE CONSIDERED ACCURATE IN ANY DETAIL, AS MEMBERS OF THIS INVESTIGATING PARTY WERE UNCONSCIOUS FOR SEVERAL HOURS... HOWEVER, WE HAVE RE-CONSTRUCTED AN EDUCATED GUESS AT THE EVENTS OF THE FOLLOWING FEW HOURS.











...CHAPTER TWO:  
THE SCREAM  
AND THE NIGHTMARE

# THE NIGHTMARE





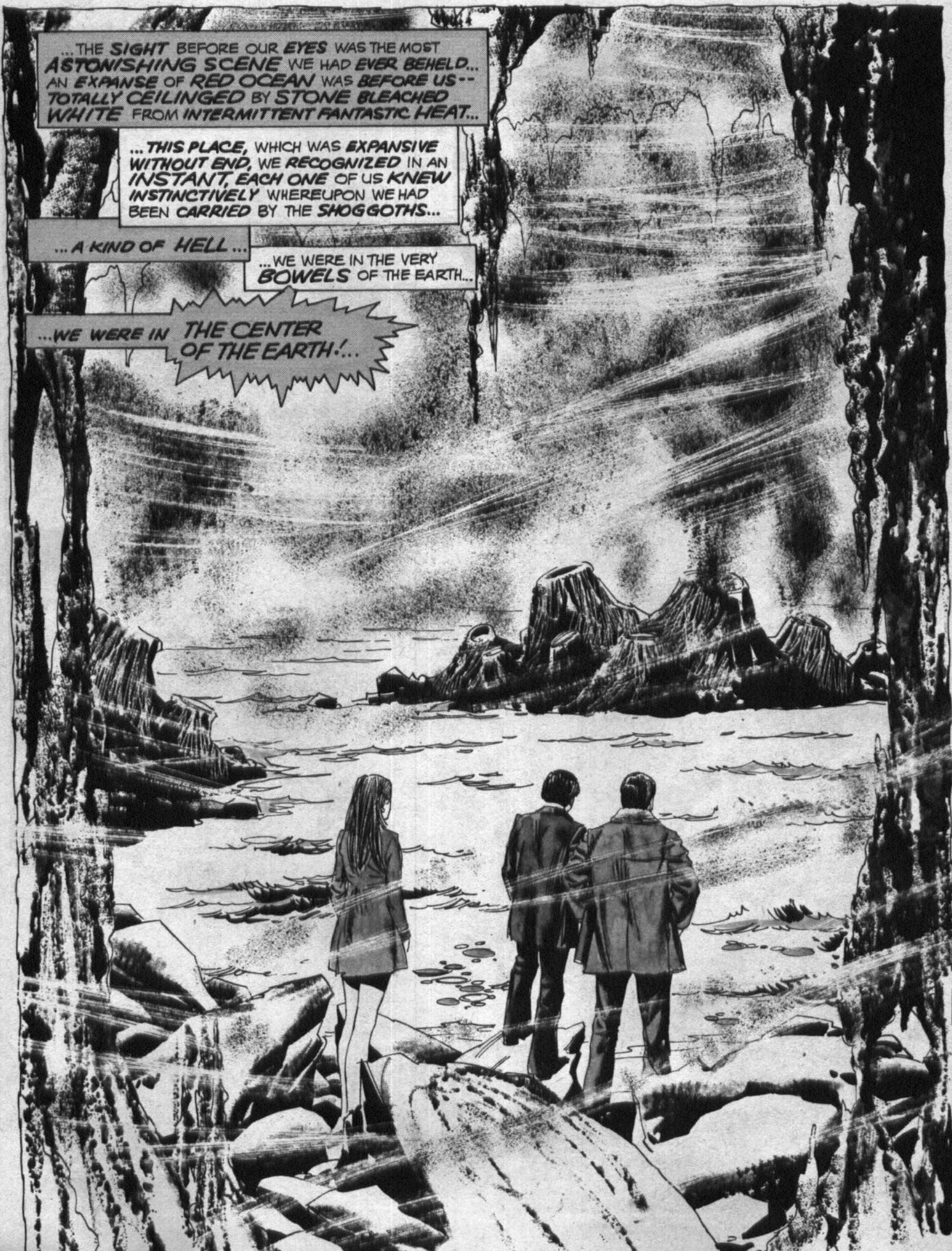
...THE **SIGHT** BEFORE OUR **EYES** WAS THE MOST **ASTONISHING SCENE** WE HAD EVER BEHELD...  
AN **EXPANSE** OF **RED OCEAN** WAS BEFORE US--  
TOTALLY **CEILINGED** BY **STONE BLEACHED**  
**WHITE** FROM **INTERMITTENT FANTASTIC HEAT**...

...THIS PLACE, WHICH WAS **EXPANSIVE**  
**WITHOUT END**, WE **RECOGNIZED** IN AN  
**INSTANT**, EACH ONE OF US **KNEW**  
**INSTINCTIVELY** WHEREUPON WE HAD  
BEEN **CARRIED** BY THE **SHOGGOths**...

...A KIND OF **HELL**...

...WE WERE IN THE VERY  
**BOWELS** OF THE EARTH...

...WE WERE IN THE **CENTER**  
OF THE **EARTH**!...





...WE WERE **STRAPPED** TO A KIND OF **CRUDE** WOODEN **BARGE**...



...IT IS **INCREDIBLE** TO LOOK AT SUCH A **DEAD THING** AS A **SHOGGOTH** AND TO **CONCEIVE** IT **CAPABLE** OF **THOUGHT**-- BUT **INDEED** THE **MONSTER** WAS **PROBABLY** MORE **ADVANCED** **INTELLECTUALLY** THAN **US**...



...WE WERE SO **BOUND UP** IN OUR **OBSERVANCE** OF THE **CRAFT** THAT WE **DID NOT** **REALIZE** OUR **APPROACH** TO THE **CITY** (IF THAT WAS WHAT IT WAS, FOR IT WAS, FOR IT WAS **INCONGRUOUS** WITH ANY **CITY** ABOVE **EARTH**)...

...WHICH **SLIPPED** OUT INTO THE **CALM** **DEAD** **WATERS** WITH A **SHOGGOTH** **SQUATTED** BY A **MAKESHIFT** **RUDDER**...



...YET AS WE **OBSERVED** THE **CONSTRUCTION** OF THE **SIMPLE** **RAFT** AN **AWFUL** **THOUGHT** **STRUCK** **US**...

...IT WAS, TO ALL **APPEARANCES** **CRUDE**, AND LOOKED LIKE IT'D BEEN **THROWN** **TOGETHER** IN A **MOMENT**...

...BUT **NO**-- AS WE LOOKED **CLOSER** AT THE **RUDDER**, AND **OBSERVED** HOW THE **CRAFT** SEEMED TO **MOVE** THROUGH THE **WATERS** **WITHOUT** **MOTOR** **POWER**-- WE **REALIZED** THE **ASTONISHING** **TRUTH**...

...SO **ABSTRACTLY** **SOPHISTICATED** WAS ITS **ENGINEERING** AND **CONSTRUCTION**, ITS **DESIGN** WAS **BEYOND** OUR **UNDERSTANDING**... IT WAS **SUPER-STRUCTURED** TO **MOVE** WITH **SPEED**, **WITHOUT** **POWER**... MERELY BY ITS **SENSE** OF **DESIGN** IN **RELATION** TO THE **WAVES**... A **MERE** **TOUCH** OF THE **RUDDER** AND THE '**UNPOWERED** **RAFT**' BECAME A **STEP** **BEYOND** **NUCLEAR** **ENERGY**...





...IT WAS AT THE **SHORE** OF THIS **OCEAN OF RED DEATH**,  
 RISING FROM WITHIN THE **CORE OF THE EARTH** TO  
**MONSTROUS** AND **OBSCENE PROPORTIONS**-- HERE,  
 THE **CAVERN ROOF** BECAME **INDISTINCT**, AND AN  
**OBLIQUE MIST** SHROUDED OVER-ALL THE '**CITY OF THE**  
**SHOGGOths**'... AS WE APPROACHED, SEVERAL **BEASTS**  
 STOOD ABOUT THE **SHORE LIMPLY GLARING AT US**...



...IT WAS A **TEMPLE**-- OF **SELF-WORSHIP**,  
 WHERE THE **SHOGGOths** CAME TO **PLOT** THEIR OWN  
**SATISFACTION**...

...IT WAS A **PLACE** OF THE MOST **HIDEOUS**  
**PHILOSOPHY** EVER **SUPPOSED** ON THIS  
**GROTESQUE GRAY PLANET**...

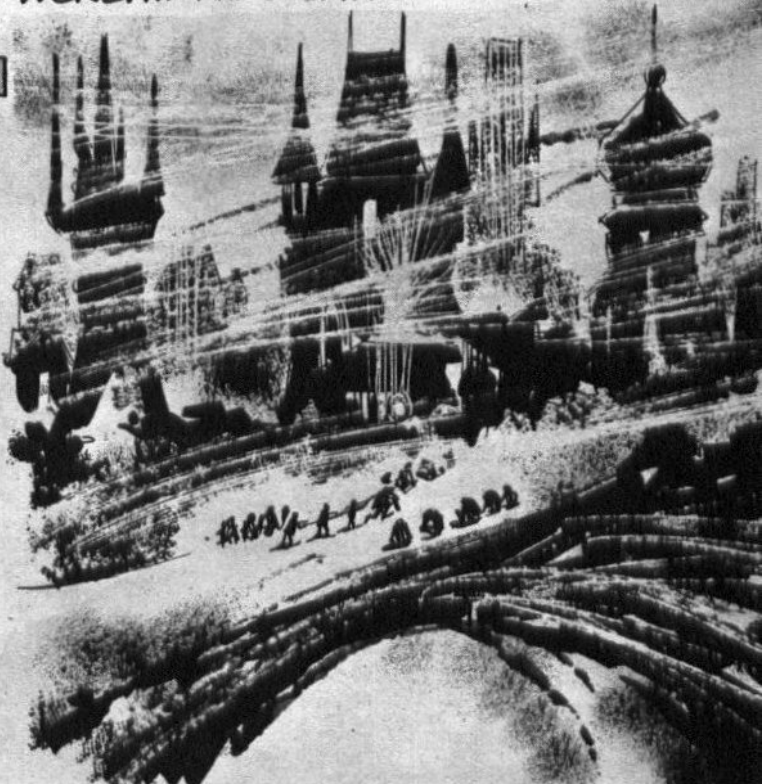
...A **PHILOSOPHY** NOT EVEN **ABDUL ALHAZRED**  
 DREAMED OF IN HIS **NECRONOMICON**...



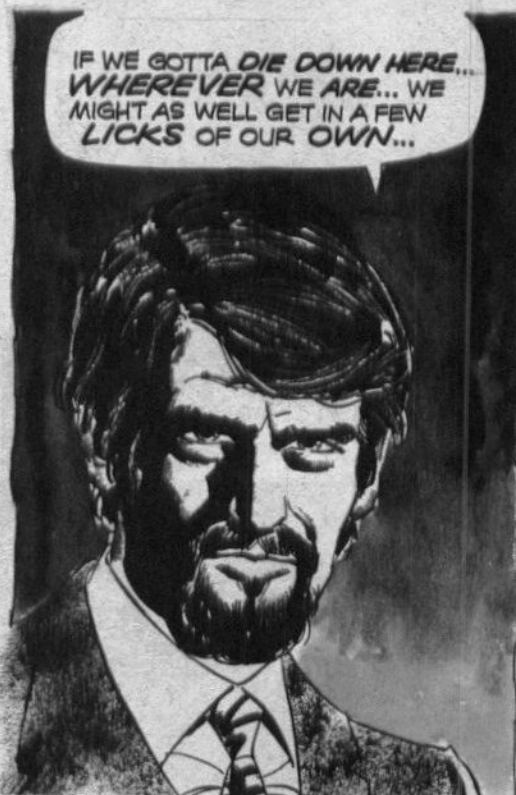
... AS WE **CLIMBED** ONTO THE **LEVY**  
 THEY CROWDED **AROUND-A-BOU**  
 AND SEEMED TO BE **STUDYING** OUR  
**FACES-ETCHING** US INTO THEIR  
**OBSCENE MINDS**...



...AS WE **WALKED** (I SAY, **WALKED**, I MEAN-- **DROGGED**)  
 INTO THE CITY WE'RE '**GUIDED**' TOWARDS THE **TALLEST**  
 AND **OLDEST** OF **ALL STRUCTURES**... IT WAS A **PLACE** OF  
**WORSHIP** AND OF **LAW**...













... **GOOD FORTUNE** WAS THEN OUR **COMPANION**... THE **SHOGGOTHS** WERE SO SLOWED AND **THWARTED** BY THE **COLLAPSE** OF THE **ARCH-BRIDGE**, THAT WE QUICKLY **OUT-DISTANCED** THEM IN THE **CAVERNS**...



...WE STUMBLED WITHIN THIS SMOOTH ROCK-CUT TUNNEL FOR SO MANY **HOURS** WE LOST **TRACK** AND **COLLAPSED** FROM **UTTER FATIGUE**...



THIS **TUNNEL**... IS IT GOING TO AN **UPWARD SLOPE**?

... UPWARD? ...

... IT SEEMS TO BE **UPWARD**...

... WE SHOULD GET SOME **REST** NOW I THINK...

... WE SLEPT SEVERAL **HOURS**... THEN **RETURNED** TO OUR **VIGILANT ADVANCE** 'UP' WITHIN THE **TUNNEL**...



...WE ENTERED A CURIOUSLY CUT **APERTURE** IN THE **EXTREME OUTER WALL** OF THE **CAVERN** OF THE **CITY ITSELF**... IT'D BEEN **CUT** OR **BORED** OUT BY **NATURE** BUT -- BUT BY **INTELLIGENCE SURPASSING** THAT OF **HUMAN-KIND**...



... WE WERE AGAIN AT THE POINT OF **EXHAUSTION**, NOW **EMOTIONAL** AS WELL AS **PHYSICAL**, WHEN WE OBSERVED SOME STRANGE KIND OF A **LIGHT** IN SIGHT **AWAY** OF US...



...WE'VE WALKED... MUST BE... **30 HOURS**...

SEEMS MORE LIKE **WEEKS**!

...SOME STRANGE ...KIND OF A... **LIGHT UP AHEAD**...





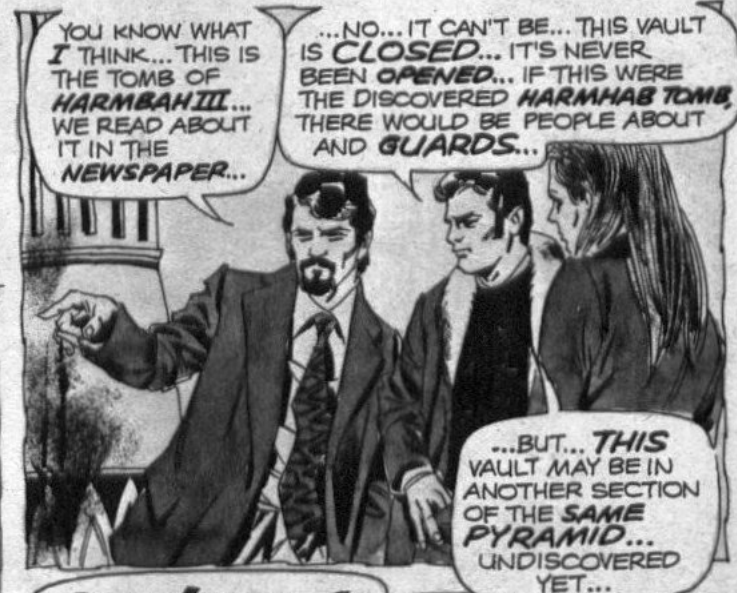
...THIS IS...  
SOME KIND OF  
**BURIAL CRYPT...**

...THOSE  
**HIEROGLYPHS**  
ON THE WALL

...THIS IS AN  
**EGYPTIAN**  
**TOMB!**



...WITH A GENUINE  
**EGYPTIAN MUMMY!...**



YOU KNOW WHAT  
**I** THINK... THIS IS  
THE TOMB OF  
**HARMBAH III...**  
WE READ ABOUT  
IT IN THE  
**NEWSPAPER...**

...NO... IT CAN'T BE... THIS VAULT  
IS **CLOSED...** IT'S NEVER  
BEEN **OPENED...** IF THIS WERE  
THE DISCOVERED **HARMBAH TOMB,**  
THERE WOULD BE PEOPLE ABOUT  
AND **GUARDS...**

...BUT... **THIS**  
VAULT MAY BE IN  
ANOTHER SECTION OF  
THE **SAME**  
**PYRAMID...**  
UNDISCOVERED  
YET...



...**FUNNIEST**  
LOOKING **MUMMY**  
I'VE EVER SEEN...

LET'S GET  
THIS WALL  
BROKEN  
DOWN...

**WHAMMM**



**SUNLIGHT!**

...**STRANGE SHAPE** THIS  
MUMMY HAS... LOOK AT THE  
SIZE OF IT FOR ONE THING...

C'MON SUZETTE...  
WE'RE **OUT** THE TOMB...  
NEVER **MIND** THE  
**MUMMY...**





CHRIST THIS  
AIR FEELS  
GOOD...

... I'M  
HUNGRY...

LOOK AT  
THE *SHAPE* OF  
THIS THING ...  
... COME OVER  
HERE ... LOOK AT  
THE *SHAPE*...



...I MUST ADMIT...  
IT *IS* STRANGE LOOKING...

...THESE  
*MARKINGS*...  
THEY - AREN'T  
EGYPTIAN...

WHAT?!

THEY JUST *LOOK*  
LIKE *HIEROGLYPHICS*...  
BUT THEY AREN'T...

...I... DON'T KNOW  
*WHAT* THEY ARE...  
BUT THEY AREN'T  
EGYPTIAN...

...THE AIR...  
THE *SUDDEN*  
FRESH AIR  
AFTER ALL THESE  
CENTURIES...

...THIS  
DAMN  
MUMMY...

...IS...  
A...

...SHOGGOTH!...











...THE...  
...**SUN**... IS...  
...HAVING MORE EFFECT...  
...THAN WE ARE...

...NOTHING... LEFT... JUST  
**DUST...**

**DAMN IT--DAMN IT--  
DAMN IT!!**

WHAT'RE YOU  
GOING ON ABOUT...  
WE **DEFEATED**  
IT DIDN'T WE?...  
WE'RE **SAFE**  
AREN'T WE?...

YEH! SURE! MINUS  
ANY SHRED OF  
**PROOF** AS TO WHAT  
WE JUST **BATTLED**...  
MINUS EVEN THE  
**SLIGHTEST**  
EVIDENCE THAT WE...

...THAT WE WERE  
IN THE **MIDDLE** OF  
THE **EARTH**!!  
... WE'VE  
ACCOMPLISHED--  
**NOTHING!!**







...HOW ABOUT THE **NEWSPAPERS...**

...WE COULD HOLD A **PRESS CONFERENCE!**

...AND BE **BRANDED AS EITHER NUTS OR PUBLICITY SEEKERS...**

WELL... WE HAVE TO DO **SOMETHING**... WE KNOW WHERE THEY **HEADQUARTER** NOW... WE ARE IN A **POSITION TO GO RIGHT TO THEM IF WE WANTED...**



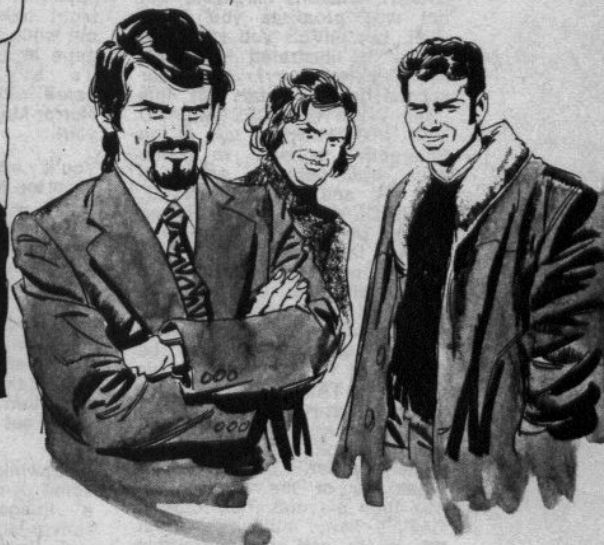
...THERE IS... **ANOTHER WAY**... PROBABLY... THE **ONLY WAY...**

...WE CAN **PERSONALLY LEAD AN EXPEDITION INTO THE EARTH AND DEAL WITH THIS OURSELVES...**

...AN **EXPEDITION...** BUT--WE NEED **PEOPLE FOR AN EXPEDITION...** A LOT OF **PEOPLE...**

PEOPLE?...

I... KNOW WHERE WE CAN GET **PEOPLE** ALRIGHT...



**PUBLISHERS NOTE:**...THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IS THE **SWORN WORD** OF MISS **SUZETTE DER ELST**, LIBRARIAN, WHICH WE PRESENT, ALONG WITH MISS DER ELST'S PHOTOGRAPH, IN AN EFFORT TO **CONVINCE YOU** OF OUR **SINCERITY** IN THE **SHOGGOTH CRUSADE...**

"I, **SUZETTE DER ELST**, HEREBY DO **SWEAR** THAT ON THE 18TH DAY OF JULY, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY THREE, I WENT TO THE **CENTER OF THE EARTH** WITH **SKYWALD** ARTIST **JOSE MARIA CARDONA** AND EDITOR **AL HEWETSON...**

...I BELIEVE THAT WE NOW DO NOT HAVE MUCH **TIME** ON OUR HANDS... THAT THE **SHOGGOTHS** WILL SOON **SURFACE TO CONQUER...**

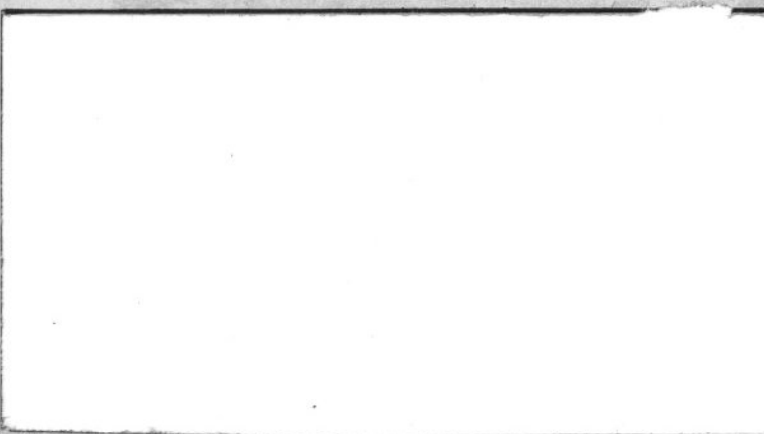
...I CANNOT **URGE** THE READER **ENOUGH**, TO BELIEVE IN, AND TO JOIN, THE **SKYWALD SHOGGOTH CRUSADE...**

...AND BELIEVING WORDS **EARLIER PRESENTED** IN THE STORY, 'THE **BEST DEFENSE IS AN OFFENSE**', WE MUST **GROUP NOW, READY OURSELVES NOW, AND ATTACK THE SHOGGOTH ENEMY FIRST...**

...I DO **SWEAR**

THAT I HAVE **READ THIS 'STORY'** BEFORE IT WAS **PUBLISHED** AND THAT **EVERY WORD AND ACTION** ALLUDED TO ME IN THIS DOCUMENT IS **TRUE...**

...THE PUBLISHERS HEREBY ANNOUNCE THAT AT SOME FUTURE DATE, WE WILL SPONSOR AN **EXPEDITION** 'NEATH THE EARTH... WE ASK FOR YOUR **PLEDGE** TO JOIN NOW... WE WILL AWARD A CERTIFICATE (8½" x 11") OF MEMBERSHIP FREE OF CHARGE TO READERS JOINING IN THIS CRUSADE... NO MONEY... NO DUES... YOU RISK NO MONEY... ONLY YOUR **LIFE...**



I AM ENTITLED TO RECEIVE **FREE OF ALL CHARGE MY MEMBERSHIP DIPLOMA** PERSONALLY SIGNED BY THE **ARCHAIC**



## THE ARCHAIC HORROR MAILBAG

Welcome to the 20th issue of NIGHTMARE, the magazine that not only promises you HORROR, but GIVES you HORROR in all its illustrated HORROR-MOOD-style glory! Like our special tale to start off this issue — THE SCREAM AND THE NIGHTMARE, a tale of the Shoggoth menace to rattle your brain-pebbles around-a-bit — and then WANTED: MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE! (yep — the photograph on page 1 of that tale (page 26 of this issue) is noneother than Archaic Al himself, who several years ago lived in an mountain-cave-village somewhere in the wilds of Mexico, pretending to be bohemian) — then Lurid Luis Collado's TALE OF HORROR, which takes you to a time and place when horror was as commonplace as table salt, namely — Berlin during the 2nd great war of the worlds! Mr. Poe then presents THE BLACK CAT, a fierce little tale about life, death and the mysterious BEYOND! THE CASTLE is the first HORROR-MOOD offering of one DUFFY VOHLAND, an esteemed American artist who in future issues is teaming up with Connecticut Yankee DON MAITZ to produce the one and only HEAP . . . to wrap up an already-super-packed issue is THE SAGA OF THE HUMAN

GARGOYLES, who this issue appear on a certain famed late-night talk show and battle it out while 30 million T.V. viewers gape in astonishment! All-in-all, it's an exciting issue—prepared with loving care by the Horror-Mood maniacs just for you!

You'll notice we sure don't have too much space to rap this issue — namely because we figure our BEHEMOTH BUNCH OF QUESTIONS take absolute precedence over anything we could say, because the next page is YOUR PAGE, where YOU write to tell us what YOU think, what YOU like, and what YOU want — and THAT simple fact makes that page almighty important to US! So be sure to fill it out and send it in NOW!

Meanwhile, let's let loose with some dynamic previews of tales n' things up coming in the Horror-Mood mags, that might wet your appetite for what's going to entertain you in the months to come!

Speaking of Shoggoths (ahem? —we were?), just as soon as Mr. ZESAR has finished with the NOSFERATU series, he'll be once again attacking THE SHOGGOTH SAGA with full artistic fury — his first tale will

## OUR SKIN CRAWLS EVERY TIME YOU SEND IN ONE OF THESE COUPONS!

— our skin crawls every time we get one of your coupons because the MAILMAN (ugh!) who delivers them is a very WEIRD PERSON! First of all, he's a LEPER, which means that some of HIS skin is attached and dripping from every envelope! Heaven help us when the air conditioning in our office isn't working properly — if there's a draft and the mailman SNEEZES — there's blood, flesh and bone fragments flying about everywhere! But look, we don't mind — it's so IMPORTANT to us to get and READ each and EVERY COUPON, we'll put up with ANY little inconvenience. Send your coupon today — tell us your FAVORITE TALE — the FIRST 5 COUPONS received for EVERY ISSUE get a FREE, ADVANCE COPY of the NEXT ISSUE of PSYCHO, NIGHTMARE or SCREAM —

be THE MOUNTAIN OF GRAVES so await it with excitement in your bleeding heart, it'll be WEIRD . . .

Depressing JESUS DURAN is just-now completing the special 4-chapter TALES OUT OF HELL series — then it's a brand new series for this exciting artist — frankly, we can't tell you much about it just yet because it's still very much in the planning stages — but we do promise you it'll be bizarre!

Fierce FERRAN SOSTRES, at the moment, is busy on a special tale for NIGHTMARE PRESENTS TOMB OF HORROR SPECIAL-EDITION titled KILL, KILL, KILL, KILL AND KILL AGAIN — an' if you think the title is a put-on, no no; this tale has got to be remembered as

one of the bloodiest tales ever written — yet it's a tale (like ALL our tales) pointing out just how evil, destructive, and namely down-right DUMB violence IS in this world! When Fierce Ferran is finished this SPECIAL TALE he'll be working on IN THE JUNGLE OF THE BATS, which is a sensational sequel to the tale in the last month's PSYCHO: REQUIEM FOR A HUMAN BEING!

Just before closing, we'd like to plug our 1974 PSYCHO YEARBOOK, which is on sale right now — it's chock-full with a shocker-barrel bucket of living, bleeding HORRORS! Miss it not!

R.I.P. **ARCHAIC AL**

### THE HORROR-MOOD™ — International shoggoth crusade —

This is to certify that

is a full degree member of the ANTI-SHOGGOTH CRUSADE, who pledges full support and participation in the eradication of the shoggoth menace by personal action, and by joining, when called upon, an expedition to the Center of the Earth (where shoggoths dwell) armed to the teeth with saws, axes, knives, bazookas and other weapons, pledging their sanity and the safety of all sane people.

AMPLE

. . . in this issue (on page 4, by CRUSTY CARDONA) there is an odd tale in THE SHOGGOTH SERIES titled: THE SCREAM AND THE NIGHTMARE — a 20 page horror blockbuster! If you'll look at the last page of that story, you'll notice we announce the birth of a new horror club sponsored by the HORROR-MOOD GROUP! You can join this organization absolutely, totally FREE of any charge, and we'll send you an 8½" x 11" official certificate of membership! Just fill in the little coupon below, send us 15¢ to cover postage and handling (honest, this is necessary—we don't make a profit) and we'll send you within 2 weeks your diploma personally autographed by Archaic Al, Emotionally-disturbed Ed, and Awkward Augustine — that's all there is to it — join now — this FREE OFFER will NOT be repeated again . . .

HORROR-MOOD SHOGGOTH CRUSADE  
SKYWALD PUBLISHING CORPORATION  
18 East 41st Street, Room 1501  
New York City, N.Y. 10017

I enclose 15¢ in Archaic cash to cover mailing of my FREE Shoggoth Crusade certificate!

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY AND ALL ELSE .....



## The

because .....

because .....

I buy the HORROR-MOOD magazines because .....

my favorite HORROR-MOOD writer is .....

my favorite HORROR-MOOD artist is \_\_\_\_\_

my favorite HORROR-MOOD cover artist is .....

my favorite **type** of story (horror, adventure, suspense, science fiction, sword and sorcery) is \_\_\_\_\_

stories should be (a) 5 to 10 pages long (b) 10 to 15 pages (c) 15 pages or longer (d) variety of lengths

I think the photofeatures are (good, bad, or comment): .....

my favorite HORROR-MOOD story TITLE is .....

my favorite HORROR-MOOD CHARACTERS are  
(the Human Gargoyles-Nosferatu-Frankenstien-Monster the Hea  
-Lady Satan):

my favorite HORROR-MOOD series are  
(Darkos Manse-Tales out of Hell-The Shoggoth Mythos-The Saga of the  
Victims):

I think text stories are (good, bad, or comment)(stories like THE SKELETON IN THE DESERT, DEAD—BUT NOT YET BURIED, THE GHOUL OUT OF HELL): .....

What ideas do you have for CHANGING the magazines or for NEW FEATURES?

[illegible]

as an  
insert



full size  
cover  
art



special  
design  
art

comment

my favorite all time HORROR-  
MOOD cover is .....

```
name.....age
```

address .....

city and all else

send in this page, or a fascimile, so that we can better entertain you — to the first 25 (yes — 25!!) **BEHEMOTH BUNCH OF QUESTIONS** we receive we will send an advance copy of **NIGHTMARE PRESENTS TOMB OF HORROR SPECIAL-EDITION**, and to the best, most complete, 10 **BEHEMOTH BUNCH OF QUESTIONS** we receive we will send **AUTOGRAPHED** advanced copies of that **SPECIAL TOMB OF HORROR EDITION** — send in your ideas to us today, and maybe **WIN** a free, autographed copy of the finest horror magazine you will ever read!



...WHATEVER IT IS, IT DOES  
NOT STAY DEAD...

...WHATEVER IT WAS, IT DOES  
NOT RECOGNIZE ITSELF NOW...

...WHATEVER MIND IT HAD  
IS NOW DEAD UNDER THE  
SWAMP-WATERS, IT NOW  
ACTS OUT OF A DIM  
INSTINCTIVE-MEMORY  
OF ITS NEED FOR REVENGE...

WRITTEN BY HOWIE ANDERSON

ILLUSTRATED BY EMILIO

# WANTED: MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE

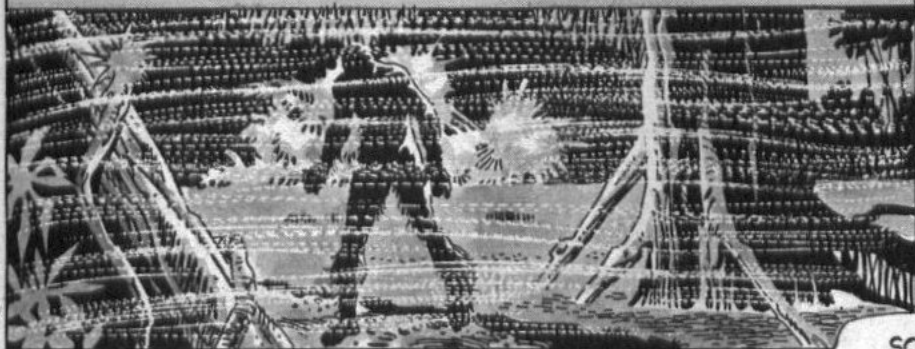
EMILIO /  
BERNADO

...REVENGE ON *WHAT* WE CAN ONLY GUESS...



...IT NOW GOES **A-SEARCHING...** FOR **WHAT**, OR FOR **WHO**, WE MIGHT LEARN **LATER...** BUT FOR **NOW** WE CAN ONLY WALK **WITH** IT AND LISTEN-IN TO ITS **THOUGHTS** AS IT **REMEMBERS** THE **DIMEVENTS** OF THE LAST **FEW WEEKS** WHICH LED-UP TO ITS **WRETCHED DEATH...**

...EVENTS THAT **BEGIN** AS IT REMEMBERS SEEING THIS **POSTER...**



**WANTED**



**JUDAS ORTEGA**  
**\$ 2000 REWARD**  
**DEAD OR ALIVE**

SO...HHA HHA...  
THEY'VE UPPED THE  
**REWARD** ON ME...

...LAST MONTH IT WAS ONLY  
**500 DOLLAR...** NOW IT IS  
GET MUCH CHLOSER TO MY  
**REAL WORTH...**

**WANTED**



**JUDAS ORTEGA**  
**\$ 2000 REWARD**  
**DEAD OR ALIVE**

**ORTEGA** MUST'VE  
MADE A **REAL NAME**  
FOR HISSELF...  
GOT HIS **REWARD**  
PUT UP...

...ENOUGH UP TO MAKE  
IT **WORTHWHILE** FER  
ME TO GET 'IM...

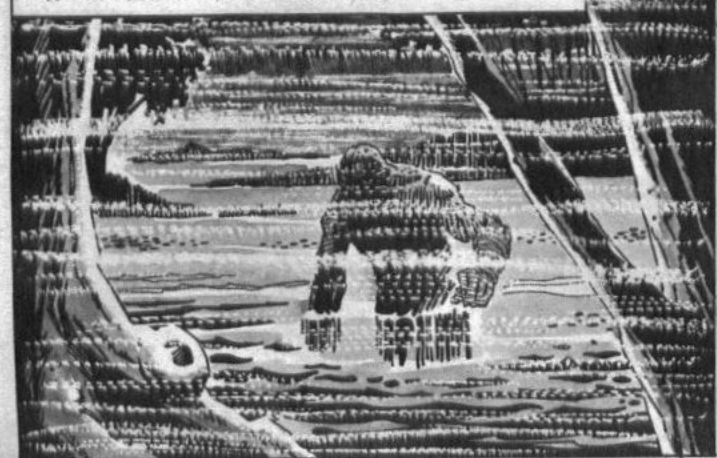
...**DEAD OR**  
**ALIVE?**

...ONLY ONE  
WAY TO BRING  
'IM IN...

...**DEAD...**

...ONLY ONE WAY... **DEAD...** THAT'S WHEN IT  
**STARTED...** THE **HUNT...**

...NOW THIS **THING** IS ON A **HUNT...**



...YOU EVER HEAR OF A MAN CALLED **ORTEGA**?... THIS'S 'IS PICTURE...

...YOU GOT A **HEAD** ON YOUR SHOULDERS MISTER... YOU'LL **TEAR-UP** THIS PICTURE...

...IT'S **UNHEALTHY** EVEN TO LOOK AT IT...

NOW LISTEN MISTER I...

KKI-  
CKKWICK

LISTEN TO **ME** CREEP... I ASKED YOU A SIMPLE QUESTION...

...IT WAS **UNHEALTHY** TO LOOK AT **ORTEGA**... **UNHEALTHY** TO BE WITHIN A **SQUARE-MILE** OF **ORTEGA**...

...AN' I WANT A **SIMPLE ANSWER!**

...YEH... YEH... UP IN THEM **HILLS** MISTER ...UP IN THEM **HILLS** HE'S GOT A WHOLE **CAMP**... ALL 'IS MEN... ALL OF 'EM... UP IN A **CAVE**...

...A SIMPLE **ANSWER** WAS ALL THAT WAS **NEEDED**... ONE OR TWO SIMPLE ANSWERS TO TRACK THE MAN **ORTEGA**...





...THERE  
HE IS...

...2000 BUCKS WORTH  
OF **DEAD-MAN**... PLUS  
HIS **MEN** SHOULD BRING  
AT **LEAST A HUNNERD**  
**BUCKS A-PIECE**...

... SOMEWHERE IN THE **TOWN** THE  
**MURDERER** WILL MEET THE  
**MONSTER**...

...HEY  
MEESTER...

WHAT?...

...HOW'D THE  
HELL YOU GET  
UP **HERE**... AIN'T  
THAT **YEW** DOWN  
**THERE**?...

...NO SEÑOR... IT IS  
ONLY ONE OF MY **MEN** IN  
**DISGUISE**... YOU SEE WE  
SAW YOU **COMIN** AN'  
WERE PREPARED FOR  
YOU...

...NOW... SUPPOSE YOU TELL  
**ORTEGA** WHY YOU COME  
TO **SEE** HIM HAH?...

...FOR HIS  
**BLOOD**?...

...FOR HIS **BLOOD**?...

WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER MY  
FRIEN'... THE CAT GOT YOUR TONGE?  
HHA HHAH HHAH...

...LEESSIN MEESTER... YOU ANSWER  
MY QUESTION NOW OR I BLOW-OFF  
THE TOP OF YOUR HEAD...

...I CAME TO JOIN  
YOU... I HEARD  
ABOUT YOU AN' I  
WANTED TO JOIN  
YOU...

HAHAHA HAHAAH-  
HAHA HAHAAHA  
YOU TAKE ME FOR A  
FOOL MEESTER?

...YOU TAKE ORTEGA  
FOR A FOOL? THERE  
EES H'ONLY ONE-WAY  
TO CHANGE YOUR MIND  
ABOUT THAT SENOR...

...A FOOL? NO... NEVER!...

BOAMM

BDAMM  
BDAMM

WHAT THE  
HELL IS THAT?  
KILL IT...

...KILL  
IT...











...I'M THE **SHERIFF**...  
WHOEVER OR **WHATEVER**  
YOU ARE JUST **FREEZE**  
IN YOUR **TRACKS**!...



YOU KEEP YOUR  
CAMP **WELL-**  
**GUARDED**  
ORTEGA...

...HAHAHAHAHA...  
MEESTER--EEF YOU  
WERE AS **HUNTED** AS  
I AM YOU WOULD **MAKE**  
**SURE** NO-ONE GOT  
NEAR YOU JUS' LIKE  
I DO...



...SO SEÑOR...  
WE MEET AGAIN... YOU  
**HUNT** ME EVEN THO  
YOU HAVE MY **BULLET**  
IN YOUR **LEG**...

...OR MAYBE THAT  
EES **WHY** EH GRINGO?  
MAYBEE **BECAUSE** I  
PUT A **BULLET** IN YOUR  
**LEG**...



YOU NO LIKE  
TO **TALK** TOO  
MUCH EH? WHAT  
EES YOUR  
**NAME**?

...INGELS...



...WELL MEESTER INGELS... I  
BECOMING VERY USED TO SEE  
YOUR **FACE** EH? I SEE IT  
**TWICE** EEN ONE **WEEK**...

...I TELL YOU INGELS... I  
GETTING **SICK** TO  
SEE YOUR **FACE**...



...WHERE IS HE?...  
WHERE IS **HE?**

**KAPPOWW**

...WHERE  
IS HE?...

...**BLOOD**...  
IN THE **AIR**...

...NO  
**MARIA**, NOT  
AGAIN... NOT  
IN **AMERICA**...

YES **MAMA**...  
TONIGHT IS THE  
NIGHT OF THE **FULL**  
**MOON**... TONIGHT  
THERE IS THE **SMELL**  
OF **BLOOD** IN  
THE **AIR**...





WAIT... WAIT... WHERE  
ARE YOU GOING... I... I...  
I LIBERATED YOU FROM  
DEATH WHY DO YOU  
FLEE ME...

...HE CAN'T  
BE FAR AWAY...  
I CAN STILL  
SMELL THE  
PIG...

ORTEGA...  
A MONSTER...  
A MONSTER  
ATTACKS  
US...

FLEE IT...  
IT IS AN  
UNDEAD  
THING!

...I CAN  
STILL SMELL  
THE  
MONSTER!...

AEEYY...  
WHY DO YOU  
ATTACK ME  
MONSTER?...

GET  
AWAY!!

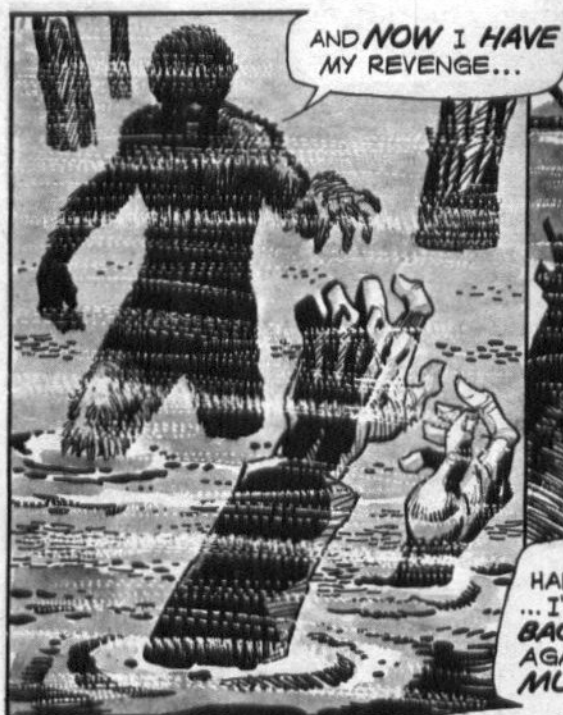
BDAMM  
BDAMM  
BDAMM

...SHUT  
YER FACE  
ORTEGA...

...I AM INGELS...

...DUE SOME  
REVENGE!...





WHAT'S  
HAPPENING I'M  
... I'M CHANGING  
**BACK TO A MAN**  
AGAIN I... I...  
**MUST NOT...**

... AS A **MAN**  
I HAVE LOST...

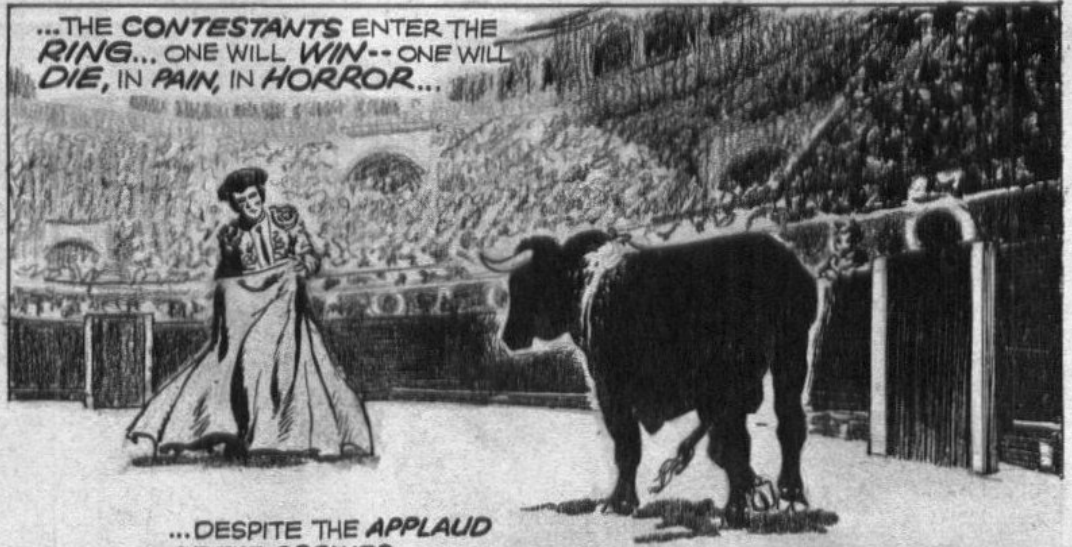


... WHERE IS HE? WHERE IS THE **MONSTER**?  
WHERE IS THE **MONSTER** **INGELS**?  
WHERE IS THE **WRETCHED GHASTLY**  
**INGELS**?...



# PROLOGUE TO A TALE OF HORROR

...THE CONTESTANTS ENTER THE RING... ONE WILL WIN-- ONE WILL DIE, IN PAIN, IN HORROR...



...DESPITE THE APPLAUD OF THE CROWDS -- CHEERING THE ONE WHO IS FORE-ORDAINED TO WIN BEFORE THE GAME EVEN BEGINS... DESPITE THIS, THERE IS A HUSH OVER THE STADIUM, FOR THE WATCHERS PRETEND THEY DO NOT KNOW WHO WILL WIN...



...THE TRIUMPHANT ONE DRIVES THE SPEARS INTO THE MONSTER'S HEAD-- AND THE SIGHT OF THE BLOOD DEMANDS A SCREAM FROM THE BULL, THE CROWD'S ROAR, THE BLOOD DRENCHES THE VICTOR AND MAN'S CHALLENGE IS SATIATED... HE HAS WON-- AS HE HAS ALWAYS WON-- AS HE WILL ALWAYS WIN... THE ONLY BATTLE MAN EVER LOSES IS AGAINST HIMSELF... AND THUS OUR TALE TAKES CHARACTER AND FORM...

...THEY PRETEND THE MATADOR IS NOT A CORPSE-- BUT HE IS-- HE'S A DEAD THING -- A DEAD OLD MAN WHO LOST THE HONOR OF CALLING HIMSELF A MAN THE MOMENT HE ENTERED THE ARENA... MAN AGAINST BEAST... THE CONTEST BETWEEN MAN AND NOBLE, VIOLENT BEAST ... A DEAD OLD JOKE... FOR WHILE THE BEAST HAS BRAUN-- THE MAN HAS A BRAIN... AND CONTEST IS A FABLE-- FOR THERE IS NO CONTEST WHEN THE END IS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION...





... GERMANY, 1945-- THE CITY  
OF **BERLIN**, AT NIGHTFALL  
... HERE WE **BEGIN** OUR  
**TALE...**

WRITTEN BY ALAN HEWETSON ILLUSTRATED BY COLLADO

# A TALE OF HORROR



THEY... THEY  
ARE COMING... MY  
DEAR GOD... MY  
DEAR **LORD**, THEY  
ARE COMING...

THIS IS THE **END!**  
GERMANY HAS **FALLEN**--  
**BERLIN** HAS **FALLEN**--  
-- THE **ARMIES** ARE  
IN **RUIN**...

FRIEDRICHSTRASSE

HELP ME... MY HOUSE  
WAS **BOMBED**... MY  
**CHILD** IS **TRAPPED**...

I-I CAN'T  
HELP YOU  
NOW!

I **NEED** **HELP**  
**NOW**... MY  
**DAUGHTER** IS  
**TRAPPED**...  
SHE IS **DYING**...  
PLEASE **HELP**  
ME...

NO--NO--  
GO **AWAY**... I  
CANNOT **HELP**  
YOU-- NOT **NOW**--  
GERMANY HAS  
**FALLEN**-- I AM  
ONLY A **PRIVATE**--  
I CANNOT **HELP**  
YOU...





I COULDN'T HELP THAT WOMAN... I COULDN'T HELP HER... THE ALLIES WILL BE IN THE CITY VERY SOON, THEY WOULD DISCOVER ME... I WOULD BE **SHOT**... THEY WILL SHOOT **HER**... AND THEY'LL GET HER **CHILD** OUT TOO...

YES-- I **THOUGHT** ABOUT HELPING HER BUT I-- I DON'T **HAVE** TO HELP HER-- **THEY** WILL HELP HER...

I MUST GO BACK TO MY **WIFE** AND **CHILDREN** IN **FRIEDBURG**... BACK TO BE A **FARMER** AS I WAS BEFORE THE WAR **BEGAN**-- I'M NOT A **SOLDIER**... I'M A **FARMER**... I'M A **FAMILY MAN**... I MUST GO HOME... I MUST GO BACK HOME...

AT LEAST I CAN SAY I NEVER **KILLED** ANYBODY... I NEVER SHOT ANYBODY OR KILLED ANYBODY... I NEVER HAD THE CHANCE... I NEVER HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY TO KILL ANYBODY-- I MUST GO HOME... BECOME A **FARMER** AGAIN-- THE WAR IS OVER NOW... OVER AND **DONE** WITH...

**FOOTSTEPS**-- MANY FEET... **SOLDIERS**... MUST **HIDE** FROM THEM!









HEIL  
HITLER!

... COME IN MY  
BOY... COME AND SIT  
DOWN HERE -- BE  
RELAXED...

WHAT IS YOUR NAME?  
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

I AM PRIVATE WILHELM  
OLDER, MY FUEHRER--  
OF FRIEDBURG...

FRIEDBURG? OH YES-- A  
NICE PLACE-- VERY NICE, WELL NOW  
PRIVATE OLDER, YOU MAY WONDER WHY  
YOU ARE HERE, AND I SHALL TELL YOU WHY  
YOU HAVE THIS HONOR... BECAUSE TODAY I  
HAVE SENT ALL MY MESSENGERS, AND MY  
PRIVATES LIKE YOURSELF, TO THE  
FRONT LINES WITH MY ORDERS FOR  
OFFENSIVES... WE ARE MAKING SUCH  
GRAND OFFENSIVES ON ALL QUARTERS  
THAT I HAVE  
ACTUALLY  
EXHAUSTED MY  
COMPLETE SUPPLY  
OF MESSENGERS...

I  
UNDERSTAND  
MY FUEHRER  
BUT-I-I...

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND  
WHY I WISH TO SPEAK TO  
YOU PERSONALLY EH?  
WELL YOU ARE TO CARRY THE  
MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE  
OF THE DAY... IT IS SO IMPORTANT  
I SHOULD SEND A GENERAL...  
HOWEVER, SO MANY OF THEM  
ARE TRAITORS I DON'T KNOW  
WHO TO TRUST, YOU  
UNDERSTAND EH?

THIS IS A MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGE--  
IT IS TO AN UNDERGROUND GROUP IN  
OLDENBURG... YOU KNOW  
WHERE OLDENBURG  
IS EH?

YES  
SIR.

I WILL  
TAKE THEM  
THIS  
MESSAGE,  
MY  
FUEHRER.

YES-- TAKE THEM THIS MESSAGE...  
AND GO WITH MY BLESSING BOY,  
KNOWING THAT BY ACTIVATING THESE  
SOLDIERS YOU MAY BE MY MOST  
IMPORTANT AID IN  
WINNING THIS  
WAR... MY MOST  
IMPORTANT  
AID...

WELL-- IN OLDENBURG THERE IS AN  
UNDERGROUND GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO ARE  
SO IMPORTANT WE CAN USE THEM TO GREAT  
ADVANTAGE... THEY CAN HELP US TIGHTEN OUR  
FRONTIERS... THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT... THEY  
HAVE HELPED US BEFORE AND WERE OF GREAT VALUE... BUT  
THIS TIME WE CAN USE THE UNDERGROUND IN AN OVERGROUND FASHION...

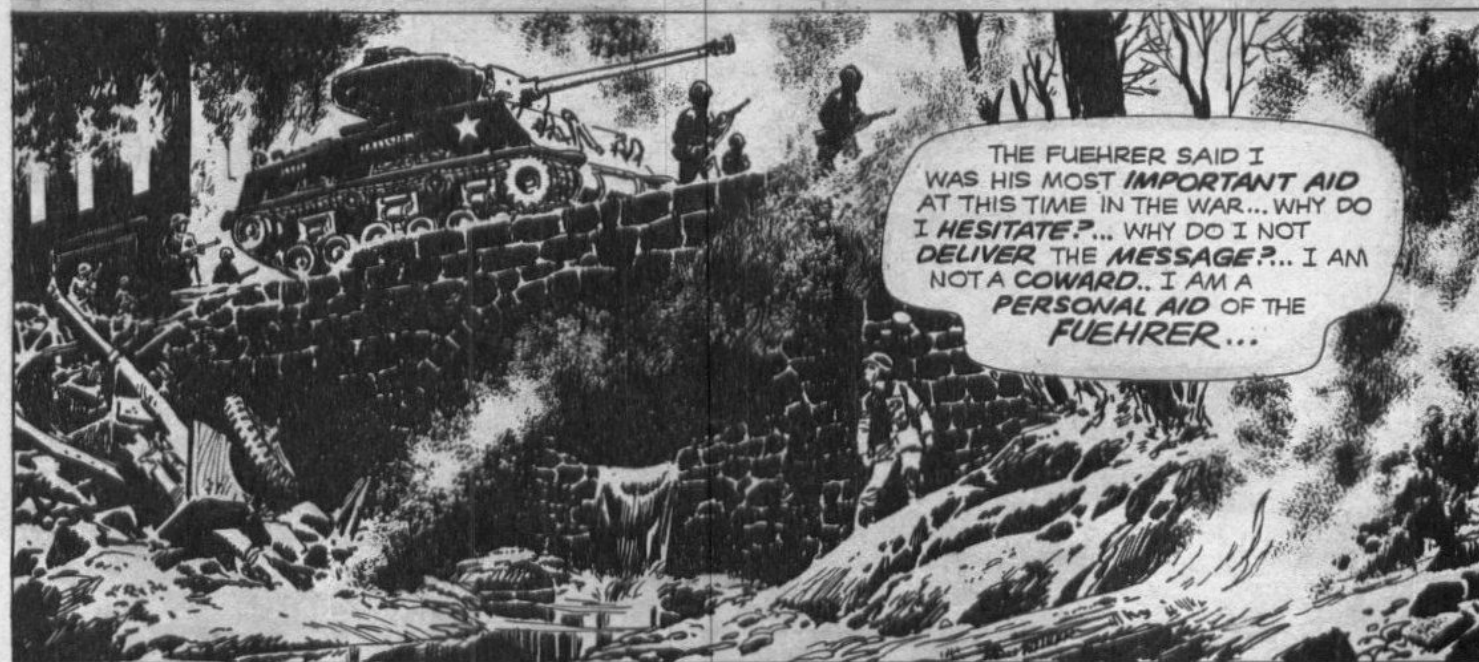


A SPECIAL UNIT OF SOLDIERS-- UNDERGROUND TILL THIS NIGHT...THEY MUST BE S.S.--THEY MUST BE INFILTRATORS INTO THE CONFIDENCE OF THE ALLIES... I AM NOT SO STUPID-- I KNOW WHAT THEY ARE... A SPECIAL UNIT OF SPIES... THEY WILL INFILTRATE ENEMY

RANKS AND ASSASSINATE THE GENERALS AND COMMANDERS-- THAT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION...



... SOLDIERS... WHAT ARE THEY? AMERICANS? I MUST HIDE--



THE FUEHRER SAID I WAS HIS MOST IMPORTANT AID AT THIS TIME IN THE WAR... WHY DO I HESITATE?... WHY DO I NOT DELIVER THE MESSAGE?... I AM NOT A COWARD.. I AM A PERSONAL AID OF THE FUEHRER...





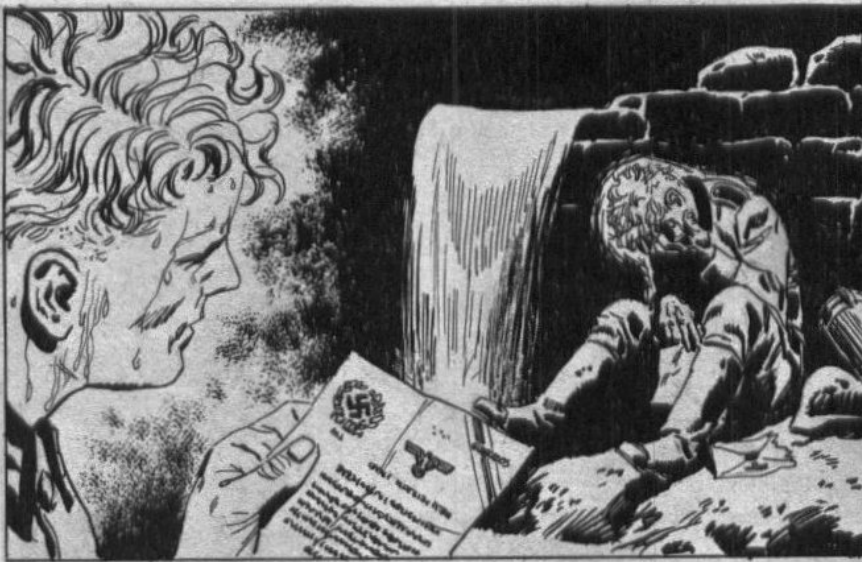
...WHY DO I  
FALTER? I AM  
NOT A  
COWARD... THE  
AMERICANS  
HAVE PASSED...

THE FUEHRER SAID THIS MESSAGE COULD  
WIN THE WAR-- NO SPECIAL UNIT CAN BE SO  
SPECIAL THAT IT CAN WIN, IT CAN ONLY DELAY  
THE WAR... IS OVER NOW... THE BRITISH AND THE  
AMERICANS AND THE RUSSIANS HAVE ENTERED  
BERLIN... WHAT CAN I DO TO WIN THE WAR...  
WHAT CAN I DO-- I CAN DO NOTHING...  
THE FUEHRER IS MISTAKEN--  
THIS MESSAGE CANNOT  
BE THAT IMPORTANT...



NO... I DARE NOT OPEN  
IT... IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO  
OPEN A PERSONAL MESSAGE  
OF THE FUEHRER... WHO AM  
I TO JUDGE THE WORTH  
OF A PERSONAL MESSAGE  
OF THE FUEHRER  
HIMSELF...





I'M GOING HOME TO  
MY **WIFE** AND  
**CHILDREN** ON THE  
**FARM...** TO **HELL**  
WITH THE **WAR** AND  
TO **HELL** WITH THE  
**FUEHRER...**



... THE **FUEHRER**  
HAS NOT SENT  
WORD... WHAT  
SHOULD WE  
**DO?**

IT'S **PATENTLY**  
**OBVIOUS** THE **WAR**  
IS **LOST--** THE  
**FUEHRER** WAITED  
TO **USE US** TOO  
**LONG...** HE IS  
PROBABLY **DEAD...**

HE MIGHT  
HAVE **RUN OFF**  
**SOMEWHERE** TO  
**SECLUSION!**

**NOT THE FUEHRER--**  
HE WOULD **USE US** AT  
THIS TIME WERE HE  
**ALIVE...** **ADOLF**  
**HITLER** IS **DEAD,**  
AND **GERMANY** IS  
**LOST...** WE MIGHT AS  
WELL **RETURN** TO  
OUR **HOMES...**

... THERE IS ALWAYS AN **EPILOG**  
TO A **TALE OF HORROR...**



# EPILOG TO A TALE OF HORROR

...IN THE ARENA THE BEAST  
LOSES - THE MAN WINS...  
THE CORPSE...



...IN THE ARENA THE BEAST  
LOSES... THE CORPSE--



...THE BEASTS RETURN  
TO THEIR CAVES...



--THE MEN RETURN  
TO THEIR HOMES...



...AND THE CONTEST  
IS NO-CONTEST...



...FOR THE MOST WILD NARRATIVE WHICH YOU ARE ABOUT TO READ, I NEITHER EXPECT NOR ASK BELIEF... MY ONLY PURPOSE IS TO PLACE BEFORE THE WORLD, PLAINLY--A SERIES OF COMMON HOUSEHOLD EVENTS, WHICH MIGHT INDEED BE CALLED...

# The BLACK CAT




...AS A CHILD I HAD BEEN SURROUNDED BY ANIMALS... AND NOW AS AN ADULT MARRIED MAN I WAS DELIGHTED TO KEEP MANY PETS-- INCLUDING BIRDS, GOLDFISH, A DOG, RABBITS, A MONKEY...AND A CAT...



HE WAS A LARGE AND BEAUTIFUL ANIMAL, ENTIRELY BLACK...AND WAS SO FOND OF ME I SEEMED NEVER TO BE APART FROM HIM...FOR HE WOULD FOLLOW ME ABOUT EVERYWHERE.

WRITTEN BY EDGAR ALLAN POE

ILLUSTRATED BY RICARDO VILLAMONTE



...BUT MY RECENT DRINKING HABITS REDUCED ME TO FIGHTING AND ABUSING MY PETS AND...EVEN MY POOR WIFE...

NO, EDGAR... NO MORE... ENOUGH... PLEASE...

LET THAT BE ENOUGH!



...STRUMPET... WRETCH... I SAW HOW YOU LOOKED AT THE MAILMAN... WANTON WENCH!



...AND WHEN MY **DRINKING** GREW WORSE...

**GET OUT OF MY WAY, PLUTO!**

LEAVE HIM  
BE, EDGAR...

LEAVE HIM BE? I'LL  
SHOW YOU HOW TO  
LEAVE HIM BE!



...WITH MY KNIFE...OH, HORRORS...I  
CUT OUT MY BELOVED PET'S EYES...



EDGAR...  
OH, GOD...STOP  
IT! STOP IT!



EDGAR!  
DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT YOU'RE  
DOING?

IN THE MORNING I WAS TOTALLY  
**REMORSEFUL** AFTER MY NIGHTS  
**DEBAUCHERY**... I TRIED TO  
**APPROACH** MY PET BUT HE  
**FLED ME**...AND WOULD NOT  
COME TO ME FOR **WEEKS**...



...THEN, ON ANOTHER NIGHT'S DRUNK...I TOOK  
PLUTO TO A TREE IN MY GARDEN AND, OH  
MY LORD GOD, THERE...I...I **HUNG** HIM BY  
A ROPE TILL HE WAS **DEAD**...



...IN THE NIGHT I WAS AWAKENED BY...

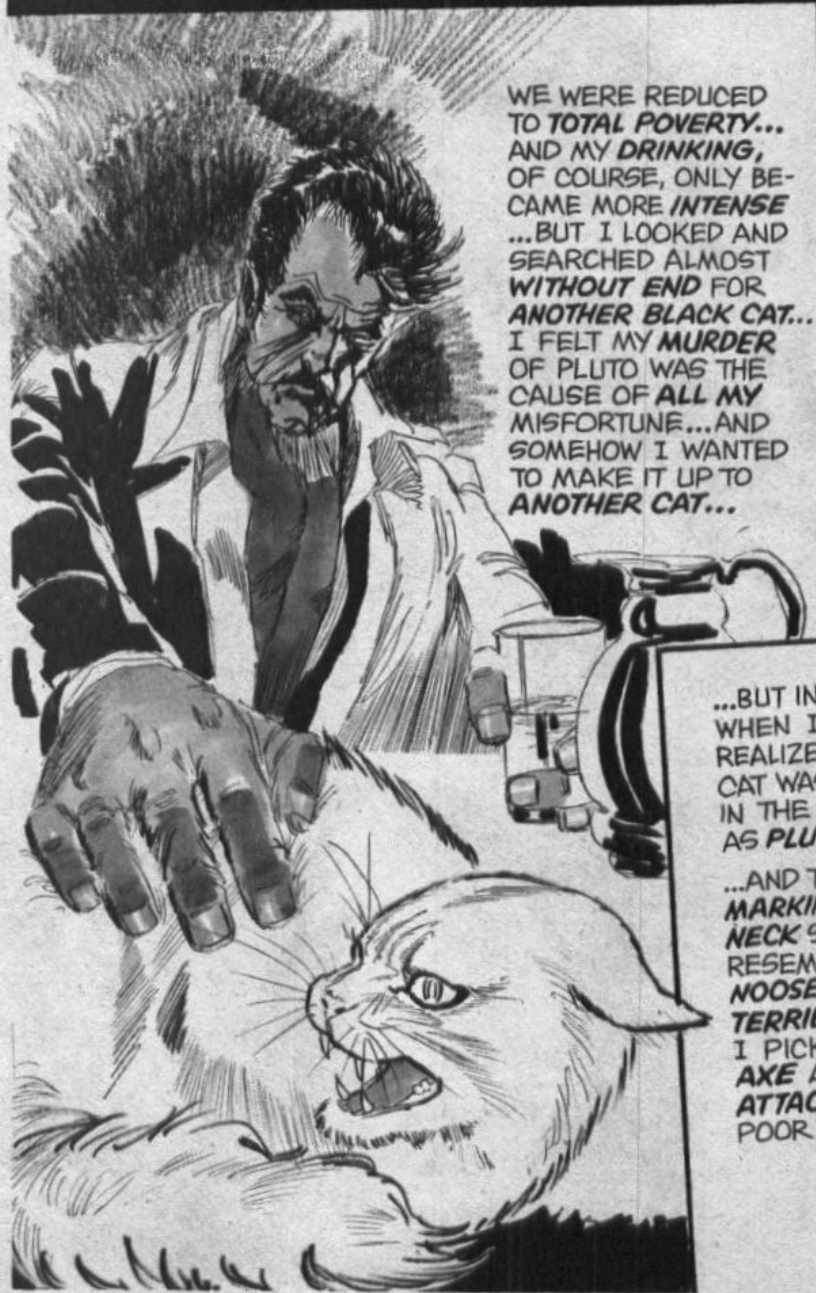
MY LORD...  
**FIRE!** MY HOUSE  
IS ON FIRE!



...IT IS IN RUIN...  
ALL OUR **BELONGINGS...**  
ALL OUR **POSSESSIONS...**  
WE ARE  
**DESTITUTE!**



WE WERE REDUCED  
TO **TOTAL POVERTY...**  
AND MY **DRINKING,**  
OF COURSE, ONLY BE-  
CAME MORE **INTENSE**  
...BUT I LOOKED AND  
SEARCHED ALMOST  
**WITHOUT END FOR**  
**ANOTHER BLACK CAT...**  
I FELT MY **MURDER**  
OF **PLUTO** WAS THE  
CAUSE OF **ALL MY**  
**MISFORTUNE...** AND  
SOMEHOW I WANTED  
TO MAKE IT UP TO  
**ANOTHER CAT...**



...I FOUND A **BEAUTIFUL**  
**BEAST** IN A **BAR** ONE  
NIGHT AND TOOK HIM  
**HOME...** HE RESEMBLED  
**PLUTO** TO AN **ASTONISH-**  
**ING** DEGREE... AND ONLY  
THE **WHITE MARKS** ON  
HIS **NECK** MADE ME  
**REALIZE** HE WAS NOT  
INDEED, MY OLD PET  
REINCARNATED...



...BUT IN THE **MORNING**  
WHEN I AWOKE I  
REALIZED THAT **THIS**  
CAT WAS **BLINDED**  
IN THE SAME **EYE**  
AS **PLUTO...**

...AND THE **WHITE**  
**MARKINGS** ON HIS  
**NECK** SO CLOSELY  
RESEMBLED A  
**NOOSE.** I WAS  
**TERribly SHAKEN...**  
I PICKED UP AN  
**AXE** AND  
**ATTACKED** THE  
POOR THING...





...AND WHEN MY  
WIFE ATTEMPTED  
TO STAY MY  
HAND I **TURNU**  
ON **HER** AND...  
**SPLIT OPEN**  
**HER SKULL...**



...I DID NOT  
FEEL **REMORESUFUL**  
HOWEVER, AND DECIDED  
TO **HIDE HER BODY**  
**BEHIND THE WALL**  
OF OUR BASEMENT  
APARTMENT...

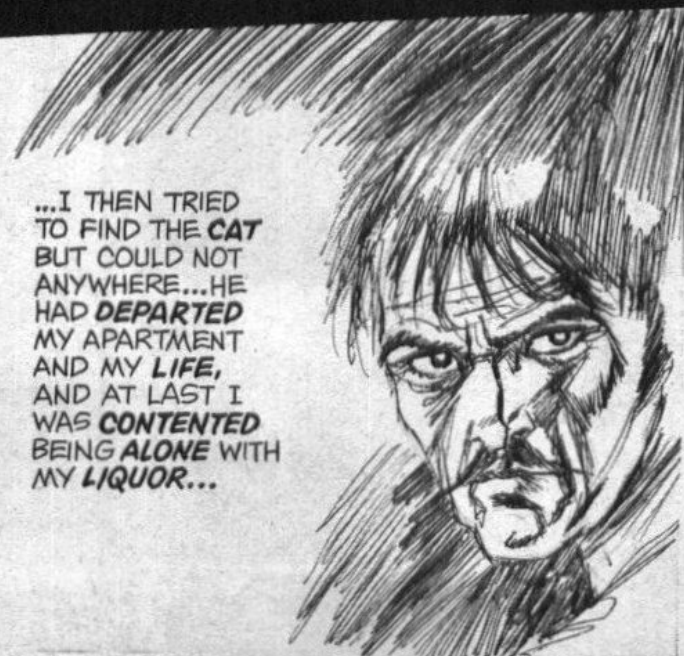
...THERE, ALICE...  
NOW YOU ARE  
AWAY FROM THIS  
WORLD AND ITS  
WRETCHED MISERY...  
AWAY FROM **ME**  
AND THE  
**MISFORTUNES** I  
PILED UPON YOUR  
SHOULDERS...

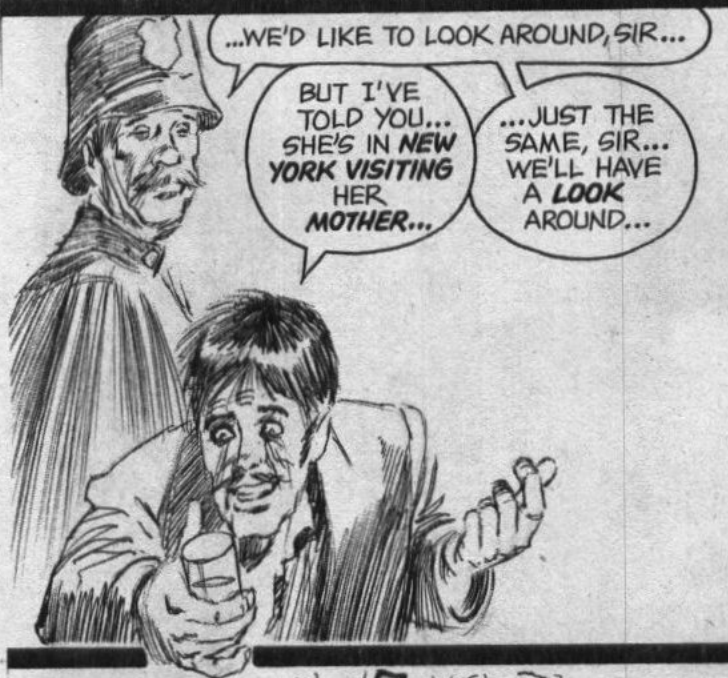


...MAY GOD  
HAVE **MERCY**  
ON YOU...AND  
ON **ME...**



...I THEN TRIED  
TO FIND THE **CAT**  
BUT COULD NOT  
ANYWHERE...HE  
HAD **DEPARTED**  
MY APARTMENT  
AND MY **LIFE**,  
AND AT LAST I  
WAS **CONTENTED**  
BEING **ALONE** WITH  
MY **LIQUOR...**





...BUT I WAS **OVER-CONFIDENT**, AND FELT LIKE HAVING SOME "FUN" WITH THE POLICEMEN...

GENTLEMEN...I DELIGHT TO HAVE PROVEN MY INNOCENCE OF ANY **CRIME**...AS YOU SEE--THE HOUSE IS IN EXCELLENT ORDER!

YES, SIR, IT IS...

AH...THESE WALLS ARE **SOLIDLY PUT TOGETHER!**



...NOW AS I SAY...I OFFER NO COMMENT... I TELL ONLY THE **FACTS**...BECAUSE WHAT **HORRORS BEHIND** THAT **WALL** COULD NEVER BE **COMMENTED UPON**...THE POLICE **RIPPED** THE NEW CEMENT FROM THE WALL AND **EXPOSED** MY WIFE'S **CORPSE**...IT WAS GREATLY **DECAYED** AND **CLOTTED** WITH **GORE**... UPON ITS **HEAD SAT** THE **HIDEOUS BEAST**...



...WHO HAD **SEDUCED** ME TO **MURDER** MY **WIFE**...AND WHOSE **INFORMING VOICE** NOW **CONSIGNED** ME TO THE **HANGMAN**, EVEN AS I HAD **CONSIGNED** POOR **PLUTO**...DEAR **MERCIFUL HEAVEN** ...I HAD **WALLED** THE **MONSTER** UP WITHIN MY WIFE'S **TOMB**...



ILLUSTRATED BY  
JOHN BYRNE  
AND  
DUFFY VOHLAND



...YOU'RE THE  
PLANNER-- TELL  
ME HOW WE'RE  
GONNA DO IT...

... IT'S A  
SHAME WE GOTTA  
DO IT AT ALL - I  
THINK WE SHOULD  
PRESERVE IT  
SOMEHOW - SO IT  
CAN BE REBUILT  
SOMEWHERE  
ELSE!

I DON'T  
CARE -- THAT'S  
UP TO YOU -- ALL I  
WANNA KNOW IS HOW  
WE'RE GONNA TEAR  
THIS CASTLE  
DOWN ...  
THE STATE  
HIGHWAY IS ABOUT  
A MILE AWAY-- THEY'LL  
BE CAUGHT UP TO THIS  
POINT IN ABOUT TWO  
WEEKS AND THAT  
CASTLE HAS GOTTA  
BE OUTTA HERE!

... IN SOME NORTHEASTERN STATE OF THESE  
UNITED STATES STANDS A CASTLE ...  
ONE THAT HAS ENDURED ALL THE ELEMENTS  
OF NATURE OF NEARLY 400 YEARS --  
IT'S NOW ON PUBLIC LAND, AND IT'S  
HISTORY AND OWNERSHIP ARE LONG  
FORGOTTEN; IT'S BEING TORN DOWN  
TO MAKE ROOM FOR A SPEEDIER ROAD  
FROM BOSTON TO PROVIDENCE-- AND--  
IT'S A SHAME-- A CRYING SHAME... FOR  
THIS OLD PLACE HAS A PURPOSE-- AS WE  
SHALL LEARN IN :

# THE CASTLE



...THIS IS WEIRD,  
PETERSON... WE'VE HAD  
A PNEUMATIC DRILL  
POUNDING AWAY ALL  
MORNING AND WE CAN'T  
EVEN DISLodge THE  
FOUNDATIONS...

... DOESN'T MAKE ANY  
SENSE--USUALLY ALL  
YOU GOTTA DO IS LEAN  
ON ONE OF THESE OLD  
BUILDINGS AND IT JUST  
COLLAPSES...  
...WE GOTTA TRY  
SOMETHING ELSE,  
VINCE...

...I-- DON'T  
UNDERSTAND  
IT...

...IT'S LIKE THE  
DAMN CASTLE IS  
ALIVE-- LIKE IT HAS A  
MIND OF ITS OWN--  
IT JUST DOESN'T  
WANNA DIE... WE'RE  
GONNA HAVE TO BOMB IT--WE'VE  
TRIED EVERYTHING ELSE-- THE  
HIGHWAYS GONNA BE UP TO HERE  
IN A FEW DAYS... ALREADY  
WE'RE HOLDING UP THE GRADERS...

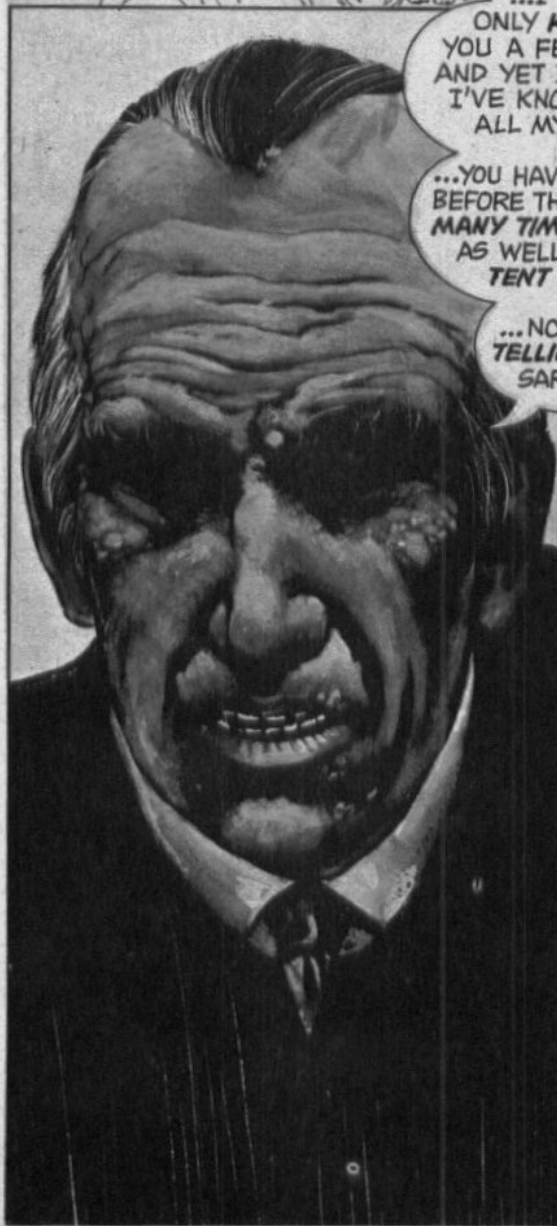


... SOME MONTHS LATER -- AFTER THEY'D RE-ERECTED THE LIVING CASTLE PRISON -- AFTER THEY'D RE-ROUTED THE HIGHWAY AROUND THE HILLOCK WITH THE MONSTER THEREIN -- THE OFFICIALS REFLECTED FOR A WHILE ON WHAT THE THING WAS, AND THE ANSWERS THEY CAME UP WITH SUMMED UP A TOTAL ZERO... WHATEVER 'IT' WAS, 'IT' WAS INDESTRUCTIBLE -- WHATEVER 'IT' WAS, 'IT' WAS BETTER LEFT ALONE -- SO WHEN NEXT YOU DRIVE AROUND A LITTLE HILL WITH A CASTLE, SOMEWHERE IN NEW ENGLAND, REMEMBER 'IT' WITHIN, AND KEEP DRIVING!





...THESE ARE THE HUMAN GARGOYLES...  
 NOW AS THEY SIT IN THIS AMERICAN COURT  
 OF LAW IT IS WITH HUMILITY...FOR THEY  
 HAVE ANGERED THE COURT AND THEIR  
 FRIEND JUDGE WALLACE...WHO PRESIDES  
 OVER IT...



...EDWARD  
 SARTYROS...

...I HAVE  
 ONLY KNOWN  
 YOU A FEW WEEKS  
 AND YET I FEEL AS IF  
 I'VE KNOWN YOU  
 ALL MY LIFE...

...YOU HAVE APPEARED  
 BEFORE THIS COURT SO  
 MANY TIMES YOU MIGHT  
 AS WELL CAMP A  
 TENT IN HERE...

...NOW I'M  
 TELLING YOU,  
 SARTYROS...

...I DON'T  
 WANT TO SEE  
 YOU IN THIS  
 COURTROOM  
 AGAIN...

...AND  
 PUBLICLY  
 OR PRIVATELY,  
 EDWARD...

...I MEAN  
 IT... SO HELP  
 ME GOD  
 I MEAN  
 IT...





...SO STARTS  
CHAPTER EIGHT  
OF THE  
TALE OF  
**the HUMAN  
GARGOYLES:**

# I, GARGOYLE





DO YOU  
KNOW HOW **COLD**  
IT IS OUTSIDE  
TONIGHT, ED?

...IT'S SO  
COLD THE **HUMAN**  
**GARGOYLES** HAD  
TO WEAR **STONE**  
**EAR-MUFFS**...

...HAHAHA  
STONE EAR  
MUFFS  
HAHAHA...

MY NEXT GUEST  
IS A MAN IN THE  
**NEWS**...YOU'VE ALL READ  
**ABOUT** HIM AND MANY  
OF YOU HAVE READ HIS  
OWN AUTOBIOGRAPHY...  
"**I, GARGOYLE**"...

LADIES AND  
GENTLEMEN...  
**EDWARD**  
**SARTYROS**...

HOW-  
COLD-IS-IT-  
JOHNNY?

...HAHAHAHA  
GARGOYLE  
HAHAHAHA...

WELCOME,  
EDWARD...

...A LOT OF  
FOLKS ARE BUYING  
YOUR BOOK AND...I  
UNDERSTAND IT'S INTO  
ITS **THIRD PRINTING**  
ALREADY...  
TELL ME...

...MY FAMILY  
AND I ARE ABLE TO  
EAT FRESH **FOOD** AND  
WE NOW HAVE A  
**NICE APARTMENT**  
TO LIVE IN...

...NO...IN  
THE **SOUTH**  
**BRONX**...

...OUT HERE IN  
CALIFORNIA?

...HAS THE  
**FINANCIAL**  
**SUCCESS** CHANGED  
YOUR LIFE  
AT ALL?

HAHAHA  
SOUTH BRONX  
HAHAHA VERY  
FUNNY HAHA  
HA...

YES...I  
MUST SAY  
IT **HAS**...

...IN YOUR **BOOK**,  
ED, YOU MAKE CONSTANT  
REFERENCE TO **SATAN**...

...YOU ARE **FOREVER** BATTLING  
HIS DEMONS SENT TO "**EMBARRASS**"  
YOU, AND, WELL, QUITE FRANKLY,  
MANY PEOPLE ARE ASKING A  
QUESTION...THEY'RE ASKING: "DO  
YOU BELIEVE IN THE  
**PHYSICAL SATAN**?"...THE  
BIBLICAL STYLE SATAN  
WHO IS A VERY **REAL**  
AHH...DEITY...

...THE **SATAN**  
BATTLE IS VERY REAL,  
YES...A **PHYSICAL ENTITY**...  
HOWEVER, THIS IS  
BECAUSE OF MY **EDUCATION**  
IN CENTURIES PAST BY  
**PRIESTS** IN THE **CATHEDRAL**  
IN **FRIEDBURG** WHO  
BELIEVED HIM TO BE  
**PHYSICAL**...

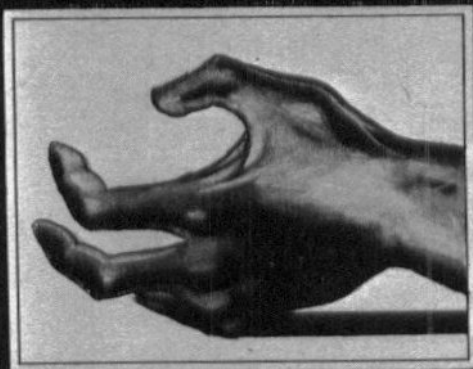
...BUT I THINK THAT  
**SATAN** PRESENTS HIM-  
SELF TO INDIVIDUALS IN  
**DIFFERENT WAYS**,  
ACCORDING TO WHAT THE  
INDIVIDUAL **BELIEVES**  
**SATAN** TO BE...











...ARE YOU  
ALL RIGHT?

YES...I'M  
ALL RIGHT...

...BUT YOU  
WERE **EQUALS**...  
WHY DID ONE WIN...  
WHY DIDN'T  
YOU **BOTH**  
LOSE?



ONLY ONE COULD  
WIN... THE **REAL**  
HUMAN GARGOYLE...  
...WHY?...  
BECAUSE I WAS MEANT  
TO WIN...TO ENDURE  
THE EMBARRASSMENT  
OF ANOTHER  
POINTLESS  
CONFRONTATION...



...THIS TIME IN FRONT  
OF **30 MILLION**  
AMERICAN TV WATCHERS...  
WHO NOW KNOW THAT  
THE **COURTS** AND THE  
**NEWSPAPERS** ARE RIGHT  
WHEN I'M CALLED A  
**TROUBLE-MAKER**...  
OR AT LEAST, THAT  
I **INVITE**  
TROUBLE...



...BUT THIS TIME  
SATAN MADE ONE  
**IMMEASURABLE,**  
**STUPID MISTAKE...**  
FOR HIS ACTION IN SEND-  
ING THAT "DUPLICATE  
**ME**" TO EMBARRASS  
ME WHEN I APPEARED  
ON YOUR SHOW, SEEMS  
NOT TO **HIS**  
BUT TO MY  
ADVANTAGE...

...FOR NOW  
NO LONGER IS  
THERE A **QUESTION**  
MARK AFTER MY  
NAME...NO LONGER  
DO PEOPLE QUESTION  
MY **HONESTY**  
OR MY  
**SANITY**...

...**30 MILLION**  
AMERICANS WIT-  
NESSED THE THING-  
SENT-BY-SATAN TO  
PROVOKE A FIGHT...

...NOW EVERYBODY  
KNOWS I AM  
**INNOCENT...**

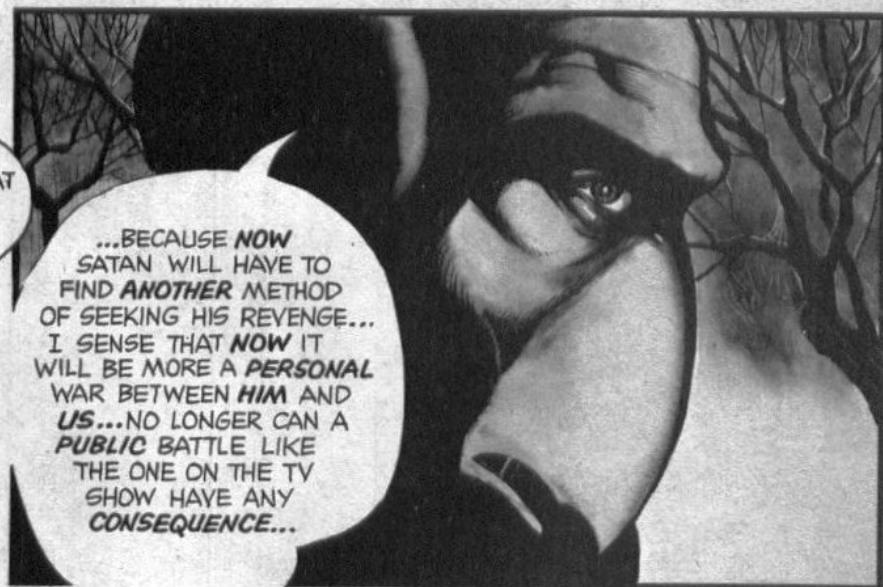




YOU WERE  
WONDERFUL,  
EDWARD...NOW  
EVERYBODY  
KNOWS THAT  
WE ARE  
VICTIMS...

YES...  
THAT'S WHAT  
WORRIES  
ME...

...BUT  
WHY...



...BECAUSE NOW  
SATAN WILL HAVE TO  
FIND **ANOTHER** METHOD  
OF SEEKING HIS REVENGE...  
I SENSE THAT **NOW** IT  
WILL BE MORE A **PERSONAL**  
WAR BETWEEN **HIM** AND  
**US**...NO LONGER CAN A  
**PUBLIC** BATTLE LIKE  
THE ONE ON THE TV  
SHOW HAVE ANY  
**CONSEQUENCE**...



...I SENSE NOW  
HIS ANGER WILL BE  
FIERCE...HIS ATTACK  
ON ME MORE INTENSE  
AND EVIL  
THAN EVER  
BEFORE...

MY GOSH...  
IT'S HIM...  
IT'S  
THEM...

...OH,  
GARGOYLE...  
MR. GARGOYLE...

I'VE JUST BEEN  
READING YOUR BOOK,  
MR....AH...SARTYROS...  
WILL YOU **AUTOGRAPH**  
IT FOR ME...



...I'VE NEVER BEEN  
SO **EMBARRASSED**,  
MINA...DO YOU **REALIZE**  
HOW **LITTLE** WE REALLY  
**KNOW**...DO YOU **REALIZE**  
WE ARE **ILLITERATE**?



WELL, I'M...  
FLATTERED YOU  
SHOULD **ASK** BUT...  
I NEVER **LEARNED**  
HOW TO **WRITE**...  
CAN'T EVEN...WRITE  
MY **NAME**...

...I THINK OUR MOST  
**IMMEDIATE** PLAN IS TO  
GET A **PROPER**  
**EDUCATION**...



...chapter one...  
**A GARGOYLE — A MAN!**  
I am the creation not of God, not of Satan,  
but of man.  
In a year too long past to remember  
sculptor took a stone block and from it  
from it... I remember sound and form  
sounds of chipping rock, falling  
the ground around me, the  
hensible sound to me.  
reason was not  
knew life, a no  
my as it was  
my





...WHY NOT?  
I BOUGHT IT...  
IT'S NEAR THE ATLANTIC  
AND SURROUNDED BY  
THE OPEN SPACES OF NEW  
ENGLAND WHERE WE CAN  
FEEL FREE AND ANDREW  
CAN HAVE SOME  
ROOM TO  
PLAY...

...IT'S JUST  
BEAUTIFUL, EDWARD...  
AND WE'RE GOING TO  
LIVE HERE?



YES...BUT  
HOW LONG  
WILL IT BE BEFORE  
SATAN REARS HIS  
UGLY HEAD  
AGAIN...

PLAY WITH  
ME, DADDY  
HEH HEH HEH

...NOT LONG,  
EDWARD...

...IT'S  
BEAUTIFUL  
HERE, EDWARD...A  
WHOLE CASTLE  
ALL TO  
OURSELVES...

...EVERYTHING  
IS GOING SO  
WONDERFULLY  
FOR US THESE  
DAYS...

SINCE THE DAY OF  
THEIR **BIRTH** THEY  
HAVE NEVER WON A  
**BATTLE** WITH ME, THO'  
THEY THINK THEY  
HAVE WON  
THEM ALL...

...IT IS  
ALL PART  
OF MY  
PLAN...

...ONLY NOW  
COMING TO  
ITS **ULTIMATE  
CLIMAX...**

NEXT:

**THE HUMAN CARGOYLES**  
**VS. THE HUMAN DEAD**

the OLD  
and the NEW  
are in the

# PSYCHO

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